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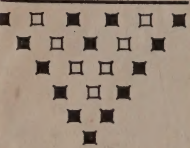

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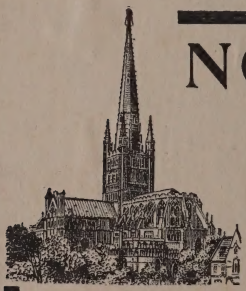

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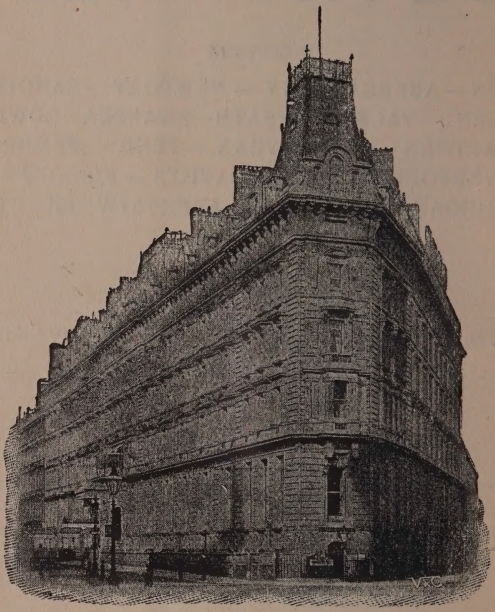

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GUIDE TO SOUTH WALES

INTRODUCTION

Scope of Book—Railway Facilities—The Welsh Language—Accommodation for Visitors—Hotels and Tariffs.

AS a geographical expression, South Wales signifies the six southern counties of the Principality, viz. Cardigan, Pembroke, Carmarthen, Radnor, Brecknock and Glamorgan. All places of general interest to the tourist in the district thus defined are described in the following pages, with the exception of the spas of Mid Wales—Llandrindod, Builth, Llangammarch, and Llanwrtyd Wells—to which another volume of this series is specially devoted. On the other hand, the eastern boundary has been slightly extended to take in the towns of Newport and Abergavenny, in Monmouthshire, which was altogether more of a Welsh than an English county until the reign of Henry VIII., and in some respects may still be so described. It is physically a part of South Wales, and in a measure it is that politically.

The district is well supplied with railways, and many places that are apparently isolated are connected with a railway by regular services of motor cars.

Direct communication between London and South Wales is practically a monopoly of the **Great Western Railway,** which tunnels under the Severn to Newport and also offers an alternative route *viâ* Gloucester and the western side of the Severn. From Newport the Great Western line runs along the Bristol Channel to Fishguard Bay, upon the western coast, sending out numerous branches as it proceeds.

The **London and North Western Railway** enters the district by a branch from Craven Arms to Swansea and another from Abergavenny to Merthyr. By a line *viâ* Banbury and the Great Western system the **Great Central** connects South Wales with the north of England. The **Midland Railway** has connection with South Wales by way of Hereford and

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Three Cocks Junction. The **Cambrian Railways** system meets the Great Western at Aberystwyth, the London and North Western at Builth Road, the Midland at Three Cocks Junction, and at Brecon it meets two local systems which give it further communication with the south, namely, the **Brecon and Merthyr Railway** and the **Neath and Brecon Railway.** Besides the small lines just named South Wales is also served by the **Taff Vale** and the **Barry Railways.**

The principal restaurant car trains from and to Paddington make a non-stop run between that terminus and Newport, and include through carriages to and from all the chief centres in South Wales. Tourists have a choice of routes, some of which are circular, and both the outward and homeward journeys may be broken at any or all of a large number of specified stations in England and Wales.

On the Great Western Railway tourists and excursionists (holding excursion tickets for one week or longer), on showing the backward portion of their tickets at the stations for which they were issued, can obtain **Holiday Season Tickets** (monthly, fortnightly, or weekly), at low rates, available for as many journeys as desired between the stations the season tickets embrace. Holders of these tickets are permitted to take with them a bicycle or tricycle on all the journeys they make in the district, on payment of a small lump sum. Full particulars of these facilities for seeing the beautiful scenery of South Wales are given in the Great Western Railway's *Tourist Programme* issued gratis at the Company's stations, or sent post free on application to the Superintendent of the Line, Paddington Station, London, W.

For particulars of local railway excursions, current advertisements should be consulted, or inquiry may be made at the nearest railway station.

Welsh Place Names.

South Pembrokeshire and the Gower Peninsula are purely English-speaking parts of Wales. Elsewhere the majority of the inhabitants are bilingual, speaking both English and their native Welsh, and only in lonely parts of Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire are Welshmen likely to be met with who profess ignorance of the English tongue. Some knowledge of the meaning of a few Welsh place names will add to the interest of a sojourn in the country:—

Aber, a confluence, river-mouth,
Allt, a cliff, the side of a hill.
Bach, Bychan, Fach, Fechan, little.
Banc, platform, table-land.
Bedd, a grave.
Blaen, a point, an end.
Borth, same as Porth.
Bron, the breast, the slope of a hill.
Bryn, a mount or hill.
Bwlch, a gap, a pass.
Cader, a chair, seat, fortress.
Caer, a fort.
Carey, a stone.
Carn, a cairn, a prominence.
Castell, a castle, a fortress.
Cefn, a ridge.
Cil, a recess, a retreat.
Coch, red.
Coed, a wood.
Craig, a crag.
Crib, a crest.
Cwm, a valley
Din, or Dinas, a hill fort.
Du, black.
Dwfr, or Dwr, water.
Eglwys, a church.
Fawr, same as Mawr.
Gaer, same as Caer.
Garth, a buttress, a cape.
Glan, a bank, a shore.
Glas, blue.
Glyn, a glen.
Gwaen, a plain, a level meadow.
Hafod, a summer dwelling.
Hir, long.
Llan, an enclosure, a place of meeting, hence a churchyard, a church.
Llyn, a lake.
Llys, a court, a hall.
Maen, or Faen, a stone.
Maes, or Faes, a field.
Mawr, or Fawr, great.
Melin, or Felin, a mill.
Merthyr, a martyr.
Moel, or Foel, a bare conical hill.
Mynach, a monk.
Mynydd, a mountain, a moorland.
Nant, a brook, a glen.
Ogof, a cave.
Pant, a hollow, a valley.
Pen, a headland.
Pentref, or Pentre, a village.
Plâs, a mansion, a palace.
Pont, or Bont, a bridge.
Porth, or Borth, a port, a harbour.
Pwll, a pool.
Rhiw, a slope, an ascent.
Rhôs, a moist plain, a moor.
Sarn, a causeway.
Sych, dry.
Tal, a headland, a point.
Traws, cross.
Tref, or Tre, a town.
Ty, a house.
Y, or Yr, the.
Ynys, an island.
Ystrad, flat land by a river.
Ystwyth, flexible, winding.

Accommodation for Visitors.

In the principal seaside and inland resorts the hotel accommodation is similar to that obtainable in such places elsewhere, and at about the same price. This applies specially to Penarth, the Mumbles (including Langland Bay), Caswell Bay, Saundersfoot, Tenby, Goodwick, Aberystwyth, Abergavenny, Crickhowell and Brecon. Newport (Mon.), Cardiff, Swansea, Porthcawl and Neath, which can be used as centres or bases for expeditions, all offer a choice of good houses; and comfortable quarters can be obtained at St. David's, Haverfordwest, Fishguard, Newport (Pembrokeshire), Cardigan, Aberayron, Llandilo and Llandovery. With regard

to private apartments, the general practice is to let bedrooms only, and to provide a common sitting-room. Except where holiday-makers most do congregate, good quarters for prolonged residence will not easily be found. Those who seek a farmhouse where plain, comfortable accommodation can be had are hardly likely to question Mr. Bradley's dictum that such houses are "so scarce as to be not worth mentioning."

The Great Western Railway Company annually publish a 1*d.* Guide, entitled *Holiday Haunts*, containing particulars of farmhouse, seaside and country lodgings, hotels, boarding-houses, list of golf links, etc. Copies can be obtained at the Company's London receiving offices, at the principal stations, and at the station bookstalls, or post free for 3*d.* of the Divisional Superintendent, Paddington.

The information given in the following list of

Hotels and Tariffs

will, we believe, be useful to tourists. The tariffs were supplied by the hotel proprietors; but as changes of management are of frequent occurrence, it is as well to verify the prices by previous inquiry. It should also be remembered that at certain times accommodation is in greater demand than usual, and terms are naturally higher.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *d.*, dinner; *t.*, tea; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Aberayron.

Feathers: *R.*, 2/–; double, 4/–; *b.*, 2/–; *l.*, 2/6; *d.*, 3/–; *t.*, 1/–; *a.*, 6*d.*
Boarding terms: 7/6 per day; 42/– per week. Garage, 1/– per night.

Abergavenny.

Greyhound: *R.*, 3/–; double, 6/–; *b.*, 1/6 and 2/6; *l.*, 1/6 and 2/6; *d.*, 3/–; *t.*, 1/– and 2/6; *a.*, 1/– per day.
Boarding terms: 8/6 per day; 52/6 per week; 17/6 per week-end.

Angel: *R.*, single, 5/–; double, 9/–; *b.* and *l.*, 2/6; *d.*, 4/6; *t.*, 1/6; *a.*, 1/6.
Boarding terms: 70/– per week; 12/6 per day. Motor Garage.

Swan: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 4/–; *b.*, 2/–; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/6; *a.*, 3/6.
Boarding terms: 8/6 per day; 60/– per week; 20/– per week-end. Garage free.

Station:

Imperial (*temp.*):

Aberystwyth.

Belle Vue. Marine Terrace:

Lion:

Northey's (*temp.*):

Queen's: *R.* single, 4/–; double, 5/–; *b.* or *l.*, 3/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 5/–; *a.*, 1/6.
Boarding terms: 12/6 per day; 73/6 per week.

Talbot: *R.* single, 2/6; double, 3/6; *b.* or *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 3/–; *a.*, 1/–.
Boarding terms: 9/– per day; 52/6 per week; 18/– Sat. to Mon.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *d.*, dinner; *t.*, tea; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Waterloo (*temp. and hydro.*) *R.* single, fr. 3/6; double, 5/6; *b.* or *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, fr. 1/–; *d.*, fr. 3/–.
Boarding terms: 7/– per day; 42/– per week; 14/– Sat. to Mon. Motor Garage.

Plynlymon, Marine Parade (*boarding*): Tariff on application.

Lenton House, Marine Parade (*boarding*): Tariff on application.

Hafodunos, Marine Parade (*boarding*): Tariff on application.

Barry.

Barry: *R.*, single, 2/–; *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, fr. 1/–; *d.*, 2/–.
Boarding terms: 6/– per day; 42/– per week; 12/– per week-end.

Marine:

Ship: *R.*, single, 2/–; *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, fr. 1/6; *d.*, 2/–.
Boarding terms: 6/– per day; 42/– per week; 12/– per week-end.

Plenvoe Arms:

Culley's: *R.*, single, 3/6; double, 5/–; *b.*, 2/–; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 2/–.

Castle:

Bishopston.

Valley:

Brecon.

Castle: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 5/–; *b.* and *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, 1/6 and 2/–.
Boarding terms: 73/6 per week; 25/– per week-end.

Wellington (*fam. and com.*) *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 3/6; *b.*, fr. 1/6; *l.*, fr. 2/–; *d.*, fr. 2/6; *t.*, 1/–; *a.*, 1/6 per day.
Boarding terms: 9/– per day; 60/– per week. Motor Garage.

Railway:

New Lion:

Green Dragon (*temp.*):

Bridgend.

Wyndham Arms:

Dunraven:

Angel:

Broad Haven.

Royal:

Caerphilly.

Clive Arms: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 3/6; *b.*, 1/9; *l.*, 1/–; *d.*, 2/6.
Boarding terms: 7/6 per day; 42/– per week; 15/– per week-end.

Boar's Head:

Cardigan.

Black Lion: *R.*, single, 2/–; double, 3/–; *b.* or *t.*, 1/6 to 2/–; *l.*, 2/– or 2/6; *d.*, 3/–; *a.*, 1/–.

Adelphi:

Cardiff.

Park: *R.*, single, fr. 3/6; double, 5/–.
Boarding terms: 10/6 per day; 63/– per week. Motor Garage.

Royal: *R.*, single, fr., 5/–; double, 8/6; *b.* and *l.*, 3/–; *d.*, 4/–; *t.*, 1/–.
Boarding terms: 12/6 per day; 84/– per week; 24/– per week-end. Motor Garage.

Queen's (*private*): *R.*, single, 3/– to 5/–; double, 6/– to 8/–; *b.*, 1/6, 2/6; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/–, 2/6; *d.*, 3/6.
Boarding terms: 10/6 per day. Motor Garage.

Great Western: *R.*, single, fr. 3/6; double, fr. 6/–; *b.* and *l.*, fr. 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 3/–.
Boarding terms: 10/– per day; 56/– per week; 20/– per week-end.

Central (*temp.*): *R.*, single, 2/–; double, 4/–; *b.* and *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 2/–.
Boarding terms: 42/– per week; 10/6 per week-end; 7/– per day.

Central Hotel: *R.*, single, 2/–; double, 4/–; *b.*, fr. 1/–; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, fr. 1/–; *d.*, 2/6.
Boarding terms: 42/– per week.

Angel:

Alexandra:

Raper's (*temp.*): *R.* single, 3/–; double, 5/–; *b.*, and *l.*, 1/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 2/6

Barry's: *R.*, single, 3/–; double, 5/– *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 2/6; *a.*, 6*d.*
Boarding terms: 7/– per day; 42/– per week, 15/– per week end.

Carmarthen.

Royal Ivy Bush: *R.*, single, 4/–; double, fr. 5/6; *b.*, fr. 2/6; *l.*, fr. 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, fr. 3/6.
Boarding terms: 9/– per day.

Caswell Bay.

Caswell Bay: *R.*, single, 4/–; double, 6/–; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*, 4/–; *a.*, 6*d.*
Boarding terms: 10/6 per day; 63/– per week; 21/– per week-end.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *d.*, dinner; *t.*, tea; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Crickhowell.

Cambrian Arms: *R.* single, 2/6; double, 4/–; *b.* or *t.*, fr., 1/– to 1/6; *l.* 1/6 or 2/–; *a.*, –/6.

Fishguard.

Commercial: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 3/6; *b.*, fr. 1/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, fr. 2/6; *a.*, 1/–.
Boarding terms: 50/– per week.
Great Western:

Goodwick.

Goodwick:

Haverfordwest.

Salutation (*fam. and com.*)**:** *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 4/–; *b.*, 2/–; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 2/–; *d.*, 3/–; *a.*, 6*d.*
Boarding terms: 10/– per day; 50/– per week; 6/–per week-end.
Castle:
Mariner's:
Swan:

Kidwelly.

Pelican: *R.*, single, 2/–; double, 4/–; *b.*, fr. 1/6; *l.*, fr. 2/–; *t.*, fr. 1/–; *d.*, fr. 2/6; *a.*, 1/–.
Boarding terms: 7/6 per day; 42/– per week; 12/6 per week-end.

Lampeter.

Commercial (*temp.*)**:** *R.*, single, 1/6; double, 2/6; *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, 1/9; *t.*, 9*d.*; *d.*, 2/–; *a.*, 6*d.*
Lion: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 3/6; *b.*, 2/–; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 2/6; *a.*, 6*d.*
Boarding terms: 9/– per day; 42/– per week; fr. 12/– per week-end.

Langland Bay.

Osborne: *R.*, single, fr. 3/–; double, fr. 5/–; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 3/–; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*, 4/–.
Boarding terms: fr. 8/6 per day; 52/6 per week; 21/– per week-end. Motor Garage.
Langland Bay:
Rotherslade:

Llandaff.

Black Lin:
Mitre:

Llandilo.

Cawdor Arms:
Castle: *R.*, single, 1/6; double, 2/–; *b.* or *t.*, 1/3 to 2/–; *l.*, 1/6 or 2/–; *d.*, 2/6; *a.*, nil.
Angel:
Imperial (*temp.*)**:** *R.* single, 1/6; double, 2/–; *b.*, or *t.*, 1/6 to 2/–; *l.*, 1/6 or 2/–; *d.*, 2/6; *a.*, nil.

Llandovery.

Castle: *R.*, single, 1/6; double, 2/–; *b.*, fr. 1/–; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, fr. 1/–; *d.*, 2/–; *a.*, 1/–.
Boarding terms: 7/– per day; 30/– per week; 10/6 per week-end. Motor Garage.
King's Head: *R.*, single, 1/6; double, 2/–; *b.*, fr. 1/–; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, fr. 1/–; *d.*, 2/–.
Boarding terms: 7/– per day; 30/– per week; 10/6 per week-end. Motor Garage.
North Western:

Llandyssil.

Porth: *R.*, single, 3/6; double, 4/–; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, fr. 1/–; *d.*, fr. 3/–; *a.*, 1/–.
Boarding terms: 10/6 per day; 73/6 per week; 25/– per week-end.

Llanstephan.

Union Hall:
Castle:

Merthyr Tydfil.

Castle:
Bush:
Central (*temp.*)**:**

Mumbles (Oystermouth).

Mermaid: *R.*, single, 3/–; double, fr. 4/–; *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 2/6.
Boarding terms: 7/– per day; 42/– per week; 15/– per week-end. Motor Garage.
Ship & Castle:
George:
Yacht (*temp.*)**:** *R.*, single, 2/–; double, 3/6; *b.*, or *t.*, 1/– to 1/9; *l.*, 1/6; *d.*, 1/6; *a.*, –/6.

Neath.

Castle: *R.*, single, 2/–; double, fr. 4/–; *b.*, fr. 2/–; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/–; *a.*, 1/–.
Boarding terms: fr. 8/6 per day.
Mackworth:
Vale of Neath Arms:
Llewelyn Arms (*temp.*)

Newcastle Emlyn.

Emyln Arms: *R.*, 2/6; *b.*, 2/–; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 2/6; *a.*, 1/–.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *d.*, dinner; *t.*, tea; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Boarding terms: 9/6 per day; 60/– per week; 17/– per week-end.

Salutation:

Newport (Monmouthshire).

King's Head:

Westgate:

Queen's:

Talbot:

Shaftesbury:

Newport (Pembrokeshire).

Llwyngwair Arms:

Commercial:

New Quay.

Lion: *R.*, single, 2/–; double, 3/–; *b.*, 2/–; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 2/6; *a.*, 1/–.

Boarding terms: fr. 6/– per day; 42/– per week. Motor Garage.

Queen's: *R.*, single, 1/–; double, 2/–; *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, 9*d.*; *t.*, 9*d.*; *d.*, 1/6; *a.*, 1/–.

Boarding terms: 6/– per day; 25/– per week; 10/6 per week-end.

Pembroke.

Lion:

King's Arms:

Penarth.

Penarth: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 3/6; *b.* and *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, 1/–.

Boarding terms: 8/6 per day; 52/6 per week; 21/– per week-end. Motor Garage.

Esplanade: *R.*, single, 4/–; double, 7/–; *b.* and *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 4/–.

Boarding terms: 8/6 per day; 52/6 per week; 17/6 per week-end.

Railway:

Pontypridd.

New Inn: *R.*, single, 2/–; double, 4/–; *b.*, fr. 1/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/–; *a.*, 1/–. Motor Garage.

Park:

Porthcawl.

Porthcawl: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 3/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, fr. 3/–.

Boarding terms: fr. 7/6 per day; fr. 42/– per week; fr. 15/– per week-end. Garage for small cars.

Esplanade:

Port Neath Vaughan.

Angel: *R.*, single, 2/–; *b.*, fr. 1/6; *l.*, fr. 1/–; *t.*, fr. 1/–; *d.*, fr. 2/–.

Boarding terms: 6/– per day; 42/– per week.

Dinas:

Saundersfoot.

Cambrian: *R.*, single, 1/6; double, 2/–; *b.*, or *t.*, 1/3 to 1/9; *l.*, 2/–; *d.*, 2/–; *a.*, nil.

Hean Castle:

Southerndown.

Marine: *R.*, single, 1/6; double, 2/–; *b.* and *l.*, 1/6; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*, 2/6.

Boarding terms; fr. 5/6 per day; fr. 40/– per week; fr. 14/– per week-end.

Dunraven Arms:

St. Davids.

Grove: *R.*, single, 3/–; double, 5/–; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 3/–; *a.*, 1/–.

Boarding terms: 10/– per day; 63/– per week; 21/– per week-end. Motor Garage.

City:

Cross House:

Swansea.

Mackworth: *R.*, single, fr. 2/–; double, fr. 4/–; *b.*, 1/–; *l.*, 2/–; *t.*, fr. 1/–; *d.*, fr. 2/6.

Boarding terms: 7/– per day; 42/– per week; 12/6 per week-end. Motor Garage.

Metropole:

Bureh:

Cameron:

Grand (*temp.*)**:** *R.*, single, 2/–; double, 4/–; *b.*, 2/–; *l.*, 1/6; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 2/6.

Royal:

Tenby.

Imperial, facing sea: *R.*, single, 3/6; double, 4/6; *b.*, fr. 1/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 3/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 9/6 per day; fr. 63/– per week; fr. 18/6 per week-end. Garage for 50 cars.

Coburg: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 4/–; *b.* and *l.*, 2/6 *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 4/–; *a.*, 1/–.

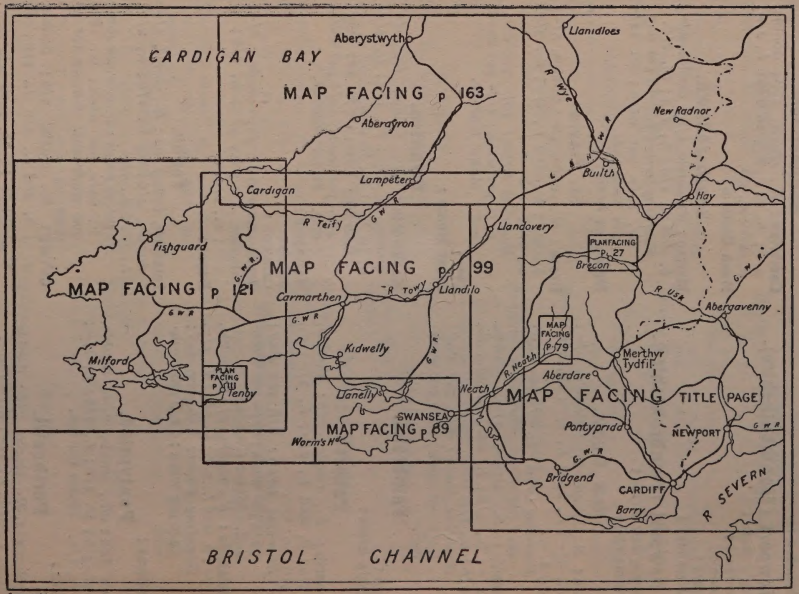
Boarding terms: 10/6 per day; 63/– per week; 20/– per week-end. Motor Garage.

Royal Gate House: *R.*, single, 4/–; double, 8/–; *b.*, 3/–; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/–; *d.*, 4/–.

Boarding terms: fr. 9/– per week. Motor Garage.

Royal Lion:

Peerless (*temp.*)**:**



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SOUTH WALES.

General Description—Climate—Sport and Outdoor Recreation —Geological Formations—A Literary Note—Historical.

Both in area and population South Wales is superior to the northern part of the Principality. It is nearly a third as large again and has about double the number of inhabitants. The greater density of the population is mainly due to the stores of mineral wealth and their attendant industries. As is well known, the coalfields of Glamorganshire produce the best steam coal in the world, and from the hills comes iron ore of no less excellence. Glamorganshire also, and the neighbouring counties of Carmarthen and Monmouth (the latter nominally English), form the seat of the tin-plate trade, while West Glamorganshire and East Carmarthenshire are as noted for their copper-smelting works; Carmarthenshire, again, and the more westerly Pembrokeshire are famed for their immense deposits of the purest anthracite coal. Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Barry, Penarth, Llanelly and Port Talbot are the seaports through which South Wales mainly discharges its products, but some of those places, as will presently appear, are so favoured by Nature that they attract seekers after health and pleasure as well as the trader. Happily, the mining and manufacturing activities are not entirely destructive of the scenic beauties amid which they are carried on, although much natural loveliness has necessarily been marred by them. Even Glamorganshire, upon which the hand of man has been most heavily laid, is not completely monopolized by its great industries. Adjoining the sites where business reigns are scenes of sylvan beauty, cliffs of exceeding grandeur, and sandy beaches of which it may quite rightly boast. And beyond the bounds of the mining and manufacturing areas are tracts, hundreds of square miles in extent, that are as much for the spending of money as any like parts of North Wales.

Physically, the two divisions of Wales are dissimilar, but

the southern no less than the northern has features that appeal to those who desire to rest and recuperate amid pleasing scenes, with facilities for amusement at hand and with objects of varied interest in the neighbourhood.

Although the surface of South Wales is nearly everywhere hilly or mountainous, the only considerable elevations are in Brecknockshire, and these are inferior in height to the principal peaks of North Wales. On the other hand, the views which the South Wales heights command are more varied and of greater interest. The special features of South Wales are large, picturesque river valleys, as those of the Usk, the Towy and the Teifi ; romantic glens ; grand limestone cliffs along the coast line of Gower and South Pembrokeshire ; and ruined strongholds in such profusion that the whole district from the Usk to the Atlantic, from Aberystwyth to the Mumbles, has been most appropriately called " The Country of Castles."

Delightful watering-places, too, there are along both the southern and the western coasts, and inland resorts with the peculiar charms of upland or of lowland scenery. Innumerable cromlechs, tumuli and other relics of long-past ages are scattered about the country. There are peculiarities of fauna, flora and rock formation to lure respectively the naturalist, the botanist and the geologist, while mountain climbing and sports of every variety await their devotees.

Having a claim to attention in this brief recital of the broad features of South Wales is the peculiar racial composition of Pembrokeshire. The northern half of the county is Welsh in blood and spirit ; the southern is English. The reason is not far to seek. Towards the end of the eleventh century the northern part was conquered by a Norman, who neither disturbed nor oppressed the Welsh. His followers probably took native women for their wives, and Norman and Welsh lived comfortably together. The southern part of the county was conquered about the same time as the northern portion, and there the parallel ends. The victors in the south only gained their end after much fighting, and then to help them to hold what they had so hardly won English adventurers were sent to settle in the land. There also were sent some Flemings who had been flooded out of their own country and had sought refuge in England, and so, by the process of supplanting the natives by the English and their friends, South Pembrokeshire became " Little

England beyond Wales," about which more must be said when Tenby and its neighbourhood are described.

Pembrokeshire is further distinguished by its large possession of interesting relics. It contains at least eighteen castles, three episcopal palaces and three great religious houses, has many notable cromlechs, and is dotted with Celtic, Roman, Danish, and other earthworks.

Another district that stands out from the rest of the country is the mountain wilderness between Builth and Lampeter, Llandovery and Moat Lane Junction. It is a tract of mountain and moorland comprising about 800 square miles. It is traversed by no railroad, and has few roads of any kind except upon its borders. Much of it, therefore, can be crossed only on foot or on horseback, and there are large areas of bog, over which very careful passage is needed. In the extreme north of this region of almost unbroken solitude is the Plynlimon range.

The landscape in South Wales gains much from the patches of bright colour given to it by many of the houses, especially those of one storey. A coloured wash is freely used upon cottages and farmhouses. Saffron and pink are the prevailing alternatives to plain white, but blue and black are used in some cases for picking out the edges of windows and doorways. Coloured houses are also seen in some of the small towns, but there paint is often used instead of wash, and there is a greater variety of tints.

Many of the smaller dwellings in the rural districts have thatched roofs, and some of these, especially in the counties of Cardigan and Carmarthen, are very quaint and charming. The thatched dwellings are generally of one storey only, and are built of stone or mud concealed by a wash of colour, while the roof is remarkable, as Mr. Bradley says, by reason of the artistic concealment of the chimneys in their braided sheaf of thatch, the billowy nature of the roof comb, and the neat roping of the fringes of gable-eave and comb.

Climate.

Of the climate of a tract so large as South Wales and with such differences of elevation, it is only possible to speak in general terms. As might be expected from the proximity of the country to the ocean, and the quarter from whence come its prevailing winds, the main characteristics of the climate are equability and humidity. The heat of summer

and the cold of winter are both sensibly modified by the Atlantic Ocean. Along the coasts there are places which, in respect to the genial and equable temperature of the atmosphere, do not fear comparison with the most popular winter resorts of Devonshire and Cornwall. A trustworthy indication of the mildness of the winters is afforded by the luxuriance of the exotic plants, which stand unprotected in the gardens year after year.

Sport and Outdoor Recreation.

Tourists in South Wales who have a liking for mountaineering may enjoy a mild form of it in the counties of Brecknock and Carmarthen, where the Brecon Beacons, the Carmarthen Van, and other heights of the Black Mountains and Forest Fawr invite ascent.

The pedestrian should be encouraged to visit South Wales by the fact that he can find routes in almost every direction in the wild country, as very little of it is enclosed, and that the full beauty of some of the best scenery, including that of Gowerland, the magnificent Pembrokeshire coast and the lovely Vale of Neath, can only be seen by travellers on foot.

Cyclists and motorists will find good main roads so far as the surface is concerned, but hills are plentiful, and not a few elevations are unpleasantly steep.

As will appear from the Appendix (pp. 171–2), South Wales has golf links within easy reach of all the principal resorts. For some of the courses it is rightly claimed that they are equal to the best in other parts of Great Britain.

Good fishing may be enjoyed in the Usk and elsewhere.

South Wales, again, is a grand hunting district. There are various packs of fox-hounds, and a subscription pack of otter-hounds hunts the rivers of Pembrokeshire and the adjoining counties, while the famous Hawkstone pack hunts most of the counties of South Wales.

Geological Formations.

The most important of these are the coal measures forming the great South Wales coalfield. This occupies nearly the whole of Glamorganshire, the south-eastern portion of the adjacent county of Carmarthen, and a narrow strip of Pembrokeshire, extending from Saundersfoot to the vicinity of St. Bride's Bay, and yielding anthracite of the finest quality. The coalfield is girdled by limestone, which forms the magni-

ficent coast scenery of the Gower Peninsula and South Pembrokeshire, while inland its presence largely contributes to the beauty of the Vale of Neath.

The greater part of Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire and parts of the counties of Radnor and Brecknock are occupied by Silurian beds—slates and shales, limestone, grey and yellowish sandstones and conglomerates. With the exception of the limestone, these do not favour the formation of picturesque scenery.

Old Red Sandstone occupies parts of the counties of Brecknock, Carmarthen and Pembroke, and is exposed upon the western coast.

Between Penarth and the mouth of the Ogmore are rocks of the Lias formation, the most recent that South Wales has to show, with the exception of the blown-sand dunes on parts of the coast, while in the vicinity of St. David's, and in some other parts of North Pembrokeshire, bosses of pre-Cambrian rocks (some of the oldest-known sedimentary rocks) have been thrust up through the Cambrian rocks which there form the lower ground. Fine sections of the rocks may be seen near St. David's, and in the quarries at Caerbwdy and Caerfair, on the coast to the south-east of the city, Menevian fossils may be successfully sought.

A Literary Note.

South Wales is so rich in places with literary associations that no attempt can here be made to give an exhaustive notice of them. The utmost that can be done is to offer a few instances taken almost at random, and therefore among those passed over there will be some at least as worthy of recognition as those to whom it has been given, and similarly it is acknowledged that the places named may derive glory from their connection with other writers than the one or two here linked with them.

On the very border of the district we are met by memories of Tennyson and Lytton. In one of the visitors' books at the little museum of Caerleon, there may be seen the autograph of the author of *The Idylls of the King*. He spent some time in and around the traditional seat of King Arthur's Court in getting local colour for his Arthurian romances, as did also Lord Lytton. And far away in the south-west, at the foot of Gumfreston Hill, only a mile or two from

Tenby, is the old mill—the Causeway Mill—which the late Poet Laureate made the subject of a poem.

Then our roving thoughts light for a moment upon the neighbourhood of Porthcawl, over which Blackmore has thrown a glamour by his story *The Maid of Sker*.

The great hive of human industry a little westward recalls the poetess and novelist known in the world of letters as Ann of Swansea, and to her friends and neighbours as Sarah Siddons' sister, Ann Kemble, afterwards Ann Curtis, and finally Ann Hatton. Born at Worcester in 1764, she outlived nearly all her contemporaries, and died at Swansea at the beginning of the reign of Queen Victoria.

At Swansea, too, the poet Richard Savage resided for about twelve months, and completed his tragedy of Sir Thomas Overbury. Upon leaving Swansea for Bristol, he was arrested for debt, and died of gaol fever, 1743, the year, by the way, that saw the birth of another of Swansea's fugitive literary residents, William Coombe.

Yet another literary celebrity of a sort can Swansea pride itself upon, one Mrs. Randell, who while living in the town in 1806 compiled a book on *Domestic Economy*, that proved to be one of the most profitable books ever published by the great John Murray. Its circulation was about 10,000 copies a year for many years, and £2,000 was the price of the copyright. Proud, too, may Swansea be as the birthplace of a friend and contemporary of Chaucer, the poet Gower, "the moral Gower" as Chaucer called him.

> "O moral Gower, this book I direct
> To thee, and to the philosophical Strood
> To vouchsauf there need is to correct
> Of your benignities and zealës good."

He belonged to a wealthy family, and having received the best education then obtainable in England, was introduced at the Court of Edward III., and it was there that he met Chaucer. His effigy has its head pillowed on three volumes, representing his three great works, the first of which was written in French, the second in Latin, and the third, the greatest of all, in English, but even to that he felt impelled to put the title in a foreign tongue, writing "Confessio Amantis," instead of the Confession of a Lover.

In the churchyard at Oystermouth (Mumbles) is the grave of Thomas Bowdler, who in 1818 published an edition of Shakespeare specially prepared for the use of boys and

girls, and thus became the father of all who "bowdlerize" a literary work. From the spot where his dust rests, it is but a little way to Caswell Bay, about which linger memories of Miss Frances Ridley Havergal, the famous hymn-writer, who in 1878 went to reside there with her sister, to whom she was spared for less than a year.

On the outskirts of Neath is Cadoxton, with Cadoxton Lodge, not long ago the Welsh home of Sir Henry M. Stanley, who married the daughter of the house, Miss Dorothy Tennant. Hard by Neath, too, is Baglan, where the poets Gray and Mason were welcome guests. Nearer still is Briton Ferry, in whose churchyard Mason wrote one of his elegies, and it is not difficult to imagine that some of the thoughts expressed in the more famous Elegy of his friend were inspired by the same restful spot.

On the other side of the river, in the old mansion of Golden Grove, dwelt for a time Jeremy Taylor, who would have all men live wisely in order to die happy, and so wrote his *Holy Living* and *Holy Dying*, after, however, he had produced that powerful argument for religious toleration entitled *On the Liberty of Prophesying*. This was penned at Golden Grove, where he was sheltered by the Earl of Carberry during the Commonwealth, for Jeremy, in his passage from the paternal barber's shop at Cambridge to his own episcopal palace at Lisburn, having been chaplain of the Royal Army until he saw that the King's cause was hopeless, then exhibited his great wisdom in "lying low."

In later years another writer who tried, by his pen at least, to lead his fellows to love virtue and to hate vice, lived and died some dozen miles to the westward of Jeremy Taylor's pleasant retreat. Sir Richard Steele was buried in St. Peter's Church, in the city of Carmarthen, where a modern brass tablet has been placed to his memory. His wife's maiden home was at Tygwn, near the foot of Llangunnor Hill, a mile and a half from Carmarthen. There for a time Steele is said to have lived. He also resided in Carmarthen, in a house in King Street known afterwards as the Ivy Bush Inn, say some; in the house that is now the Ivy Bush Hotel, in Spilman Street, say others.

As fancy has brought us to Carmarthen, let us recall the fact that it was the birthplace of the late Sir Lewis Morris, whose poetry has added lustre to the annals of his native land. And is not lustre being added by that popular novelist

Allen Raine, who was born at Newcastle Emlyn, in the county of Carmarthen, and whose *nom de plume* no longer conceals the fact that it is Mrs. Beynon Puddicombe who is doing for Wales what the Scottish writers of the Kailyard school did for their native land.

Another notable birthplace is that favourite resort of Tenby visitors, Manorbier Castle. Here was born Gerald de Barri, Gerald the Welshman, *Giraldus Cambrensis*, who came to be regarded as one of the most learned and brilliant students of the University of Paris, and perhaps the most brilliant courtier in the court of Henry II., and who, thereby gaining mention here, wrote books giving a most lifelike description of Ireland, Wales, and the English court at the end of his century.

On the bank of the Usk, some 5 miles below Brecon, lived, in the seventeenth century, Henry Vaughan, known in literature as *Silurist*, a poet of the contemplative and religious kind, like George Herbert, his countryman and contemporary.

The foregoing suggests certain books that are specially suitable for reading during a visit to South Wales or immediately before or after going there. Needless to say, there are many others. Among them are the book of South Wales by Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Hall, and a rare volume entitled *A Guide to the Beauties of Glyn Neath*, written by William Young in the pre-railway days of 1835; the *History of Little England Beyond Wales*, by Edward Laws; the *History of Gower*, by the Rev. J. D. Davies; Morgan's *Wanderings in Gower*; Bradley's delightful *Highways and Byways in South Wales*; *The Nooks and Corners of Pembrokeshire*, by H. T. Timmins; *South Wales, the Country of Castles*, published by the Great Western Railway Co.; *The Castles of Pembrokeshire*, by T. R. Dawes, M.A.; *Pembrokeshire*, by George Owen, of Henllys, a writer of the Elizabethan period, whose work is a storehouse of quaint and interesting facts; O. M. Edwards's *Wales*, which tells the story of the country in a way that appeals to all readers, and Borrow's *Wild Wales*; *Bird Life in Wild Wales*, by John A. Walpole-Bond, and the Natural History volumes written by Philip Henry Gosse in 1854, but not yet superseded. In lighter vein are the well-known historical novels of Owen Rhoscomyl; *A Son of Arvon*, by Gwendolen Pryce; and *The Sorrows of Elphin* and *Headlong Hall*, by Thomas Love Peacock, "who rambled about Wales for a year or two in his youth and poked fun at the humorous

side of Welsh life, ancient and modern," while any one who can read Welsh cannot fail to find delight in *The Mabinogion*, a collection of fairy tales and semi-mythological romances.

Historical.

It will be remembered that when the Romans came to Britain, they found it occupied by two great branches of the Celtic race. The strongest portion, as time showed, was formed of tribes of Brythons, the ancient Britons of our school history books. The German tribes that invaded the country and settled in it after the departure of the Romans spoke of the Britons as the *Wealhas*—the foreigners—and gradually drove into the mountainous regions of the West those who would not give up their freedom. The tribes along the coast north of the Dee, and those along the coast south of the Severn, were as much Wealhas to the Anglo-Saxons as the natives in the portion between those landmarks; but the dwellers in the central part retained their independence so much longer than the others that the name clung to them, and they are still in English speech "the foreigners," for the word Welsh is only a corrupted form of *Wealhas*, while Wales is the land of the Wealhas, the foreign land.

The Welsh had their independence when the Normans came, and they retained it for more than two centuries after the Norman conquest of England, although the first of the Norman kings of England began the systematic reduction of Wales by settling barons along its frontier, and his successors from time to time made war against it. After the victories of Edward I. and the death of Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, in 1282, the country was annexed to England. Two centuries later the Welsh had the satisfaction of seeing Henry Tudor, a nobleman of Welsh descent, mount the English throne, and thus fulfil, as they thought, the ancient prophecy that their race should once more rule the land.

During the Civil War, Wales was nearly wholly Royalist, and consequently many of its castles were battered by Parliamentary cannon.

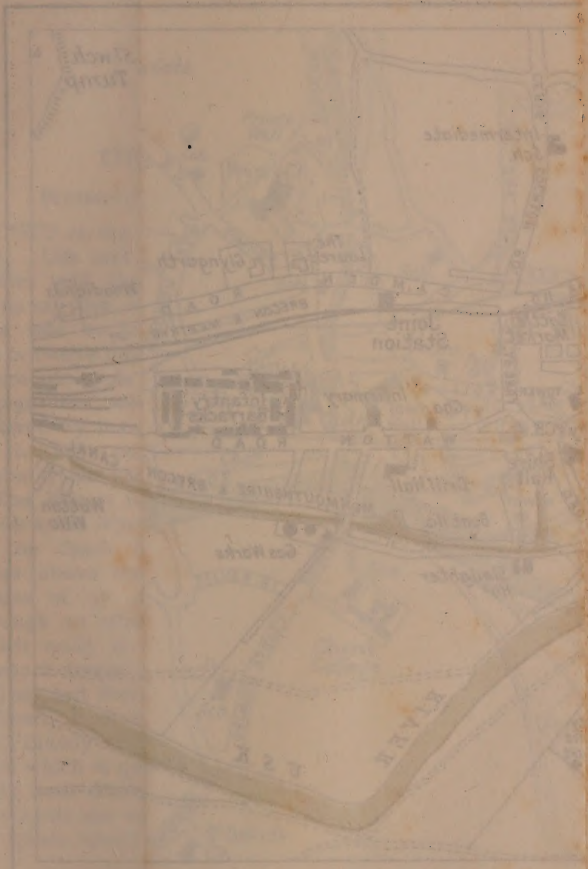
All the foregoing concerns the Principality as a whole, but in the annals of the country there are certain matters pertaining specially to South Wales. One of the most interesting of these is the formation of that curious Little England Beyond Wales, to which reference has been made, and which, as has been said, was the result of successes

gained in South Pembrokeshire by followers of William the Conqueror, and the subsequent establishment there of colonies of Flemings. These appear to have gone in two batches, the first consisting of refugees from the destruction wrought in the Low Countries by the overflowing of the sea, and the second of soldiers brought from the Low Countries by Henry II. According to Giraldus Cambrensis, the King placed English among them to teach them the English language, and they became English "and the plague of Dyved and South Wales on account of their deceit and lies."

In 1797 South Wales was thrown into a state of intense excitement by the landing of a French force on the shore of Fishguard Bay. After a few hours of mild plundering and drunkenness, the invaders surrendered unconditionally to a small body of militia and volunteers, but the full story must be reserved for recital when the locality to which it relates is described (*see* p. 156).

Near the middle of the following century, there was a violent scene at the Monmouthshire Newport, when a large Chartist mob was dispersed by a military force. During that period also, an agitation against turnpike gates led to serious riots in many parts of South Wales. The rioters called themselves "Rebeccaites," taking the name from Rebekah, the bride of Isaac, because when she left her father's house Laban and his family "blessed her," and said, "Let thy seed possess the gate of those that hate them" (Gen. xxiv. 60). For the most part the men dressed themselves in women's clothes, and toll-gates were generally the objects attacked. Carmarthen was one of the places in which the lawlessness was directed against something else. There the Rebecca rioters attempted to destroy the workhouse. The disturbances continued for four years. Then "Rebecca," who proved to be a young farmer, was captured and sentenced to penal servitude for twenty-one years.

But the most important events in the history of South Wales are those connected with its industrial development—the discovery and utilization of its stores of coal and iron, the establishment of smelting works, and the construction of the series of magnificent docks along the eastern half of its southern coast.



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THE VALLEY OF THE USK.

Brecon—Crickhowell—Abergavenny—Newport.

TWO of the most beautiful rivers of Great Britain, the Usk and the Wye, rise in Wales and mingle their waters with those of the Severn in the Bristol Channel. Some say Usk, others Wye, is the prettier of the two. They flow side by side through Monmouthshire, separated by ten or twelve miles of land so fertile that it looks like a garden. There are apple orchards and cornfields, pear orchards and hop-gardens, woods and green meadows. The fair tract is watered by many streams which join the Usk on one side or the Wye on the other. The most romantic scenery probably lies between Llangynidr and Crickhowell.

The **Wye** is fully described from source to mouth in the *Guide to the Wye Valley* in this series. The **Usk** rises in one of the Black Mountains of Brecknockshire, about 18 miles above the town of Brecon, and follows a winding course of 57 miles to the Bristol Channel. It flows through no other English county but that of Monmouth, which really is English only in name. On its banks are pleasant towns and spots that recall old tales of Romans and ancient Britons, of noble knights and lovely ladies.

Nearly from end to end the Usk is a good trout stream, and thickly dotting its course are famous salmon pools, from which in quite recent years as many as eighteen salmon have been drawn in a day by a single rod. Some of the best spots are only semi-private, being open to the holders of tickets issued by the various local Angling Associations.

BRECON.

Situation.—At the foot of the Beacons, by the confluence of the Honddu (*honthee*) the "Black Water," with the Usk.

Angling.—In the Usk by holders of tickets issued by the local Anglers' Association. Salmon and trout, 5*s.* day; trout only, 2*s.* 6*d.* day. Weekly and season tickets also are issued. A licence must also be obtained both for trout and salmon fishing. At Llangorse Lake (p. 35) free fishing for pike, roach, perch, and eels.

Approaches.—From London and the Midlands by the Midland Railway *viâ* Hereford, or by G.W.R. to Hereford and thence by Midland.
From London by Great Western Railway to Abergavenny and thence by G.W.R. Road Motor Car.
From London and Bristol by Great Western Railway *viâ* Newport.
From Cardiff *viâ* Merthyr by the Brecon and Merthyr line.
From Swansea and the West *viâ* Neath.
From North Wales by the Cambrian Railways.
From North England by London and North-Western Railway *viâ* Shrewsbury and Builth Road.
Boating.—On the Usk, on the Canal, and on Llangorse Lake.
Distances.—

By Road.	MILES.
London *viâ* Monmouth and Abergavenny	167
London *viâ* Hereford	170
Builth	16
Abergavenny	20
Crickhowell	14

By Rail.	MILES.
Builth	26
Hay	17½
Hereford	38

Golf.—The Brecon Golf Club has a course between Newton Farm and Llanspyddid.
Hotels.—*See* Introduction.
Population.—6,000.
Post Office.—In Lion Street.
Railway Station.—Off Camden Road, on the east side of the town.

Although Brecon has but a small population, it is, as a touring centre, one of the principal inland towns of South Wales. It is irregularly built and, with a few notable exceptions, its architectural features are unattractive. The greater part of the town is on the northern bank of the *Usk* and on both sides of the River *Honddu*. From its position at the meeting-place of the latter stream with the Usk, it obtained its Welsh name of *Aber-Honddu*. The site of the town is one of considerable charm, the valley of which it forms part being fertile and bounded on either side by hills pleasantly wooded or clothed with grass.

By following Camden Road westward from the railway station—that is, bearing to the left on reaching it from the station precincts, and then at the end of a hundred yards or so turning to the left into Free Street—the visitor will quickly reach the heart of the town, and will have before him the **Shire Hall,** a fine building in the Grecian style, in which the Assizes are held and other county business is conducted. In some of its chambers are portraits of local celebrities.

On the far side of the triangular space, the Bulwark, on the north side of the Shire Hall is **St. Mary's Church,** or the Town Church, as it is commonly called. It dates from the thirteenth century, but restorers have robbed it of all archæological interest. It is a roomy edifice, remarkable for its

great length compared with its small height. The register dates from 1685.

The *Wellington Statue* outside the church was the work of a native of Brecon (John Evan Thomas), who presented it to the town.

In High Street, which joins the Bulwark, are two buildings of interest, the **Town Hall** and the **Siddons' Wine Vaults.** The former is a plain building in which the Corporation holds its meetings. Its Assembly Rooms are used for concerts, dramatic performances, and public gatherings. The house now known as the Siddons' Wine Vaults was formerly the *Shoulder of Mutton Inn*, and while it bore that name was the birthplace of the great actress, **Sarah Siddons,** who was held by Byron to be worth Kemble, Kean, and Cooke put together.

The grave of Mrs. Siddons, it may be remembered, is in the disused burial-ground of St. Mary's Church, Paddington. A fine monument, modelled from Reynolds' famous picture of the great actress as the Tragic Muse, was erected on the spot some years ago.

Among other notable natives of the town are Dr. Hugh Price, founder of Jesus College, Oxford; Dr. Coke, the first Wesleyan missionary, and Henry Vaughan, the poet of the Beacons, better known as "The Silurist."

By continuing along High Street we come to Castle Street, on the left. It leads to a bridge over a ravine, down which the waters of the Honddu come rushing into the Usk. On the farther side of the ravine are the remains of

Brecon Castle.

They are now very scanty and are nearly all in the garden of the *Castle Hotel.* The fortress was built about the eleventh century by Bernard de Newmarch, who obtained some of the materials from the old Roman station of **Gaer Bannau,** 3 miles off, which had been the capital of the Welsh kingdom of Brycheiniog, overthrown by him. During the Civil War the Castle was dismantled by the townsfolk, so that they might be spared a siege.

The principal remnant of the Castle is known as the **Ely Tower.** It rises from a wall of foliage high above the river. Steps lead to the summit, which commands a good view of the Usk Valley above the town and of the Beacons, while in the north-east the Black Mountains about Hay may be

seen. The tower owes its name to having been the prison of Morton, Bishop of Ely, when Richard III. was on the throne of England, and a Duke of Buckingham was lord of Brecon. The Bishop contrived to engage his keeper in a conspiracy against the King. The scheme terminated in the escape of the wily ecclesiastic and the execution of the Duke, the third of his family slain in the Wars of the Roses.

When Bernard de Newmarch had finished his castle, he laid the foundations of

The Priory Church,

which to-day is the glory of Brecon, for of the churches of Wales it is second only to St. David's Cathedral. In the words of Mr. E. A. Freeman, "it is the noblest of a class of which a good many instances occur in Wales; massive cruciform churches with central towers, whose high roof and gables invariably present a picturesque external outline. The leading idea is that of simple bulk. Brecon Priory impresses us more strongly with the idea of general magnitude than many buildings of much greater positive dimensions. This is, perhaps, partly occasioned by its extreme simplicity of structure." And again, "Did Brecon possess only this one magnificent object it would be enough to give it a high architectural place among towns of its own class."

The ground plan consists of a nave with aisles, a north porch, a central tower or choir, with transepts, and an eastern limb forming a large Presbytery without regular aisles, but with a remarkable arrangement of chapels on each side. The total length exceeds 200 feet, the width is 60 feet. The noble building was restored under the superintendence of the late Sir Gilbert Scott at a cost of upwards of £10,000. The nave in olden days was the parish church, while the choir and transepts were used by the inmates of the monastery, which was a cell of Battle Abbey. The nave was completed some time in the twelfth century, but in the fourteenth century it lost its Norman character by being gradually transformed into a Decorated building. The choir, transepts, and presbytery were rebuilt during the thirteenth century.

The Early English **Choir** is undoubtedly the finest part. Its vaulted ceiling was first completed by Sir Gilbert Scott. The East Window, a quintuplet, contains glass to the memory of the officers and men of the 24th regiment who fell in the African campaign of 1877–9. It is one of a number of interesting military memorials in the church. Above the com-

munion table is the "Mocking of Christ" by Gerard Honthorst (d. 1660). On each side is an aumbry, and on the south side are seats for the celebrant and his assistants. The north arm of the transept is called the *Chapel of the Men of Battle,* (3 miles off is the parish of Battle, probably attached to the Priory, and named after the parent house.) On the eastern side of this chapel is another, called the Vicars', or *Havard Chapel.* It is filled with interesting monuments, and contains a central pillar resembling that of the Four Virgins in Chichester Cathedral. At the extremity of the southern transept is the *Chapel of the Red Haired Men*—the Normans. On the eastern side of this transept are a chapel and a sacristy. In the latter are the remains of stairs that led along the triforium passage to the dormitory. In the north aisle of the nave were the Chapels of the Tailors and Corvisors, or Shoemakers, and in the south aisle were the Chapels of the Weavers and Tuckers. Under a sepulchral arch in the north nave aisle is the effigy of a civilian of about the middle of the fourteenth century. Other objects of interest are a wooden effigy, the sole relic of the family mausoleum of the ancient family of the Games of Aberbrân, the effigies of Justice Williams (1613) and his wife, a monument by Flaxman to Mr. Morgan James, a curious old font, and fine memorial slabs of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in the floor at the west end.

In the grounds of the present Priory House are slight remains of the domestic buildings of the **Priory,** but the public are not admitted to view them, although the resident very readily grants permission to applicants. The Priory House was the residence of Sir John Price, who drafted the petition to Henry VIII, which resulted in the abolition of the Marches and the Union of England and Wales. Charles I. stopped at the Priory House for a night on his hurried march through Wales after the battle of Naseby.

The fine old church stands on an eminence on the north side of the railway, and but a short distance from the Castle. As Mr. Bradley has well said: "Its elevated position amid a spacious and well-kept graveyard, its venerable trees, and the ancient buildings of the adjoining Priory, make up a picture of which resident Breconians may well be proud, and absent ones recall with fond memory. Shady walks lead down on one side to the clear rapids of the Honddu; on the other, though farther off, the broad Usk gleams in the valley, while beyond the latter mountains as sharp in outline, and as high as those of famed Merioneth, climb the sky."

On the southern side of the Usk, in a line with the Priory Church and the Castle is **Christ's College,** the rival school to Llandovery, a good deal larger and a great deal older than the latter. It was founded by Henry VIII., and is housed in a picturesque group of buildings that include portions of a Dominican Friary. The dining-hall, library, and chapel belong to the thirteenth century. The Chapel, indeed, is the restored choir of the ancient church. Several bishops of St. David's of the sixteenth century were buried within it, and it contains some interesting effigies. The Sunday services are open to visitors. The College stands about 400 feet above sea-level on a site of some 20 acres.

On the same road, but farther from the town, is **St. David's Church,** the representative of an ancient building which collapsed in 1852.

Above the railway, at the other end of the town, is the **Memorial College,** erected in 1862 in memory of the non-conforming clergy of 1662 and for the education of Congregational ministers.

Beyond the railway station are the **Barracks,** the Depôt of the South Wales Borderers, formerly the 24th regiment, heroes of Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift.

WALKS AND EXCURSIONS FROM BRECON.

The Captains' Walk.—A short, pleasant, shaded promenade, approached from the Shire Hall and ending on the bank of the Usk, at the sole remaining fragment of the old town wall. It was much used by French officers who were prisoners on parole at Brecon during the Napoleonic Wars. Hence its name.

The Promenade.—A tree-lined avenue alongside the Usk, immediately above the Honddu. The walk can be continued by a track running along the edge of the river, and passing in view of **Newton House,** a charming old manor house, standing on the opposite side of the stream on a site once occupied by the residence of Sir David Gam, who saved the life of King Henry V. at Agincourt, but lost his own there, and is thought by some to have been the original of Shakespeare's Fluellen.

The Priory Groves.—A shady walk beginning near the Priory Church. It is best approached by way of an iron bridge from the Struet, a thoroughfare that runs northward from the junction of Castle Street, Lion Street, and High Street. For three-quarters of a mile the Honddu flows on the right. Then the path drops to a stone footbridge over the stream. From a disused forge on the farther side

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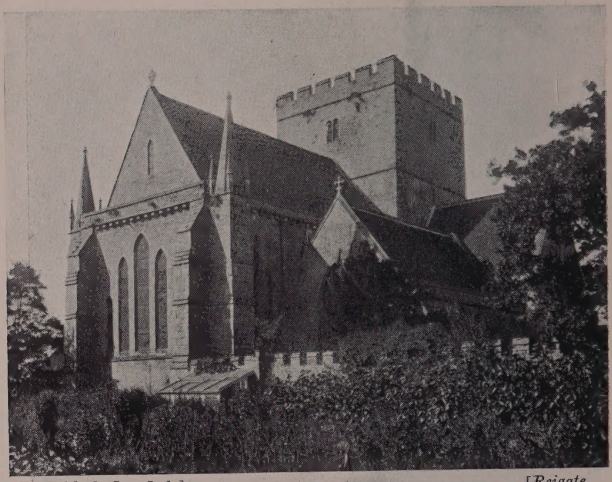
BRECON AND THE BEACONS.



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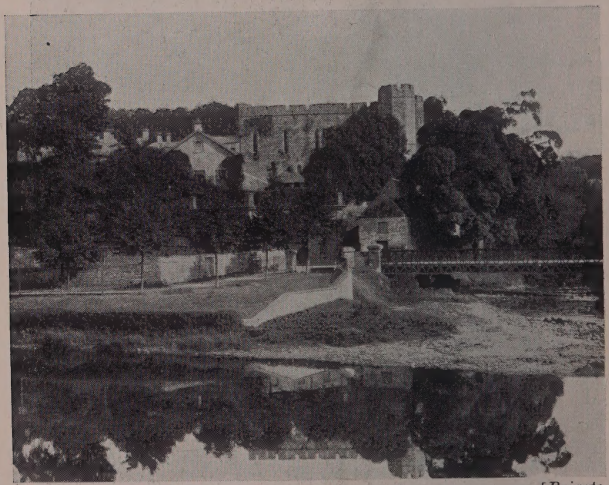
PRIORY CHURCH, BRECON.



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BRECON CASTLE.

a footpath and a road both lead to the Hay road. This is reached by the path at the first milestone from Brecon, while the road comes into it a little lower. At the entrance to the town there stands, on the left, an archway which is a fragment of the ancient Priory.

To Pen-y-Crug.

This hill is situated about two miles north-west of the town. It is crowned by an ancient camp and commands a magnificent scene, of which the Beacons form the principal feature, while the panoramic view of the silvery Usk meandering through a fertile valley is one not soon forgotten. From no other point can this range of mountains be seen to greater advantage. It can be reached by continuing the walk through the Priory Groves to a cart-track which comes up from the stream on the right, and crosses fields on the left. The latter branch should be followed. It leads past a farmhouse to the Builth Road, from which the hill can be ascended. But a better route is by the Avenue, near the Castle Hotel and past the Cemetery. Half a mile beyond that follow a path to Pen-y-Crug Farm, pass through the farmyard and then make for the top of the hill, which can be reached about a quarter of an hour after leaving the high-road.

To Llanfrynach.

Llanfrynach is a pretty village with a charming little church, about 3½ miles to the south-east of Brecon, from which it may be reached by a variety of routes. Perhaps the most pleasant is that which at first lies along Dinàs Road, which is entered from the western end of the Usk Bridge, against Christ's College. Follow the road through the lodge gates of the grounds of Dinas House and as far as the second iron gate beyond it, where take the footpath on the left and proceed alongside the stream; or instead of taking the path continue along the avenue, taking care when approaching the mansion to keep below it. The return from Llanfrynach can be made by the canal bank, or by the high-road which runs parallel with the canal and the river.

To the Rhydgoch Falls.

These are situated to the south-west of the town and occur in one of the tributaries of the *Tarall*, a feeder of the Usk. They are only small, but the glen is exceedingly pretty. From the western end of the Usk (Llanfaes) Bridge, near Christ's College, follow the Llandovery Road to a point some two or three hundred yards past St. David's Church, and there turn to the left along the Ffrwdgrech Road. Having passed Ffrwdgrech Lodge, about three-quarters of a mile

from the main road, cross a stream and then take the middle of the three roads beyond it. It leads in three-quarters of a mile to a bridge which spans the stream just above the larger of the two falls, to which a path runs from the near side of the bridge. To reach the other fall, cross the bridge and walk towards the source of the stream. (The falls are on one of the routes to the Beacons.)

To Slwch Tump.

This eminence—a favourite view-point, a mile eastward of the town—is reached by way of Free Street and Cerrig Cochion Road and then by the lane on the right at the Intermediate School. The hill, which is the goal of the walk, is crowned by a clump of firs.

To The Gaer, or Caer Bannau,

the site of the Roman *Bannium*, on the north side of the Usk, nearly 3 miles to the west of Brecon. To reach it proceed from the Castle Hotel along the Avenue, and then turn to the left about 200 yards short of the cemetery, or take train to Cradoc station on the Swansea line, and then there is a walk of only three-quarters of a mile. The camp can be visited by permission of J. D. Evans, Esq., of Ffrwdgrech. It is much more perceptible than Roman camps usually are. Much of the massive stone wall surmounting the fosse which enclosed the camp still remains and in many places is 6 feet high. The camp itself is a parallelogram of level meadow some 8 acres in extent. Traces of Roman buildings and of the causeway that led to them are very plain upon the sward. Numerous relics of the Roman period have been unearthed, and some of them may be seen at the adjacent Gaer farm.

A most interesting relic of the Roman occupation stands upon the road indicated above, about a quarter of a mile from the camp. It is known as **Maen y Morwynion**, "the stone of the maidens," and was the tombstone of a Roman soldier and his wife, whose defaced effigies are still upon it.

To Llanddew.

Llanddew is a village about 2 miles to the north-east of Brecon. The first half of the way is along the road to Hay and then by a road which branches off on the left. By slightly adding to the distance the return can be made by a road running eastward through Ffordd-fawr to the Hay road. Of all the churches in the county of Brecknock, that of Llanddew stands next in point of interest to the Priory Church of Brecon. In the precincts stood an ancient residence of the Bishops of St. David's, and the foundations of the mansion in which Giraldus Cambrensis lived, when

Archdeacon of Brecon, may yet be traced. "In these temperate regions," he writes, "I have obtained a place of dignity, but no great omen of future pomp or riches, and possessing a small residence near the Castle of Brycheiniog (Brecon) well adapted to literary pursuits and the contemplation of eternity, I envy not the riches of Crœsus, happy and contented with that mediocrity which I prize far beyond all the perishable and transitory things of this world." Although the Archdeacon expressed such sentiments, none will do him wrong by believing that he had dreams of being Bishop of St. David's. There came a time indeed when there seemed a prospect that those dreams would be fulfilled, as the Canons nominated him for the See, but their nomination was not favourably received by the King, who desired the appointment of an ecclesiastic who would be subservient.

To Llangorse Lake.

Llangorse Lake (Llyn Safaddan) is a large sheet of water some 5 or 6 miles eastward of Brecon. It is between 1 and 2 miles in length and about half a mile wide, but the depth is not great. The nearest station is Talyllyn (tath-lin) Junction, from which the nearest point of the lake is about 1 mile by footpath. The village of **Llangorse** is 2 or 2½ miles from the station, according as the high-road or a footpath is followed, and the village is half a mile from the north side of the lake. The water is much resorted to by anglers, who have free fishing for pike, roach, perch, and eels. Boats can be hired and boating is a favourite amusement. Anglers find board and lodging at the *Fishing House* on the north side of the lake, and at two small inns in the village. The vicinity is a pastoral region backed by mountains. At the lower end is the **Allt** (1,287 feet), standing alone and overlooking the Usk valley. On the south side of the lake stands the beautiful little church of **Llangasty-Talyllyn.** Its tower is a favourite view-point. On an island in the lake there have been found traces of prehistoric dwellings. To their presence may perhaps be due the tradition that the lake covers the site of a Roman city and the palace of a too-proud ruler.

To Dol-y-gaer.

Dol-y-gaer is a lake to the south of Brecon, where boating and fishing can be enjoyed. It has been formed by damming the valley, and is one of the reservoirs supplying Merthyr Tydfil. It is 16 miles by rail from Brecon, but cheap tickets are issued and the line runs through grand scenery.

The Beacons.

The ascent of the Beacons is one of the chief excursions from Brecon. As a chronicler has well said, they "are

always beautiful, whether when, like castled steeps, they soar into the summer air, or hide their majestic heads in circling mists; and the view from their summits is a vast rolling sea of many colours." The main points are Pen-y-Fan, or Arthur's Chair, Van Wee, the pointed Beacon, and Van Vawr, the lesser Beacon. **Pen-y-Fan** has an elevation of 2,907 feet and is the loftiest peak in South Wales. The view from it is uninteresting towards the south, where the principal features are usually the neighbouring moorland and the smoke from the many furnaces of Glamorganshire, but when the air is clear the Bristol Channel can be distinguished. Towards the east the Black Mountains are the most prominent objects; in the west also there are mountains stretching away to the Carmarthen Van; but towards the north the prospect is varied and most lovely. It includes the Valley of the Usk and Llangorse Lake, and in clear weather extends to the Malvern Hills.

Of the various routes by which the ascent of the Beacons can be made from Brecon, three are more favoured than the others.

1. *Viâ* **Ffrwdgrech.** The first portion of this route is identical with that to the Rhydgoch Falls (*see* p. 33) as far as the bridge beyond the lodge. Having crossed the bridge, take the left-hand road. It follows the Gwdi stream and in a mile and a half arrives at Blaen Gwdi Farm. There turn to the right, and at the end of a quarter of a mile turn to the left, and the way to the top of Pen-y-Fan is plain.

2. *Viâ* **the Storey Arms,** on the Merthyr Road, 8 miles from Brecon. The inn is only 1,600 feet below the summit of Pen-y-Fan, and about 2 miles from it. The ascent is easy.

3. *Viâ* **Torpantau Station,** on the Brecon and Merthyr line. Third-class fare, 1*s.* 2*d.* The line runs through fine scenery and at Torpantau is 1,300 feet above sea-level, about the same elevation, that is, as the Storey Arms. About half an hour's walk from the station takes the climber to *Blue-stone Common*—Gwaun-cerrig-llwydian in the vernacular and upon the maps. Half a mile farther, slightly to the left, is Cwm-orgwm, and thence the route follows the ridge towards the west. Brecon can be reached from the summit by way of Ffrwdgrech in about a couple of hours. It should be noted that there is no inn at Torpantau.

To the Bwlch Pass.

Bwlch Pass is a narrow cutting through the Buckland Mountain, at an elevation of 732 feet, on the road between

J. Maclardy,] [*Oswestry.*

LLANGORSE LAKE AND THE BEACONS.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,] [*Reigate.*

CRAIG-Y-NOS CASTLE.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,] [*Reigate.*

CRICKHOWELL.

Brecon and Abergavenny, about 9 miles from the former town. At the pass a fine view suddenly meets the eye. The prospect includes a large portion of the Valley of the Usk, with the larch-covered hill of Miarth in the midst and the Abergavenny Sugar-loaf in the far distance. The Great Western Railway motor car which runs between Brecon and Abergavenny goes through the pass, which can also be reached by a walk of 2½ miles from Talybont Station, 7 miles from Brecon. A good pedestrian who delights in fine scenery and is returning to Brecon should go on from Bwlch to Talyllyn Junction, 5 miles by direct road, or 6½ miles *viâ* Llangorse. The road from Brecon to Abergavenny is one of the most beautiful in South Wales. Visitors who can only go from Brecon to Bwlch Pass will see the best part of it. Five miles from Brecon it passes a spot called **Cwm Gelanedd,** the "Valley of Slaughter," and there, nearly opposite the milestone, is an inscribed stone, said to have been erected in memory of a Roman officer who was killed in a battle against the Welsh.

Craig-y-nos Castle. Travellers by rail from Brecon to Neath or Swansea, *viâ* Penwyllt, 18½ miles from Brecon, may obtain a good view of Craig-y-nos Castle, the "Rock of Night," for many years the home of Madame Patti, who purchased the estate in 1878, and has expended fabulous sums in enlarging and beautifying the castle. It stands on the right below Penwyllt Station.

CRICKHOWELL.

Situation.—On the north side of the Usk and on the high-road between Brecon and Abergavenny.
Approach.—By Great Western Railway motor car from Abergavenny or Brecon.
Boating.—On the canal connecting Newport and Brecon.
Fishing.—In the Usk for salmon and trout and in the Grwyne-fawr and Grwyne-fechan rivers. For trout-fishing the daily tickets are 2/–; weekly, 7/6; season, 21/–.
Golf.—At Penmyarth, 1 mile from Crickhowell. *See* p. 171
Hotel.—The *Bear*.
Population.—About 1,500.

Crickhowell is an ideal spot for those who desire a quiet holiday in the midst of pleasant scenery and within easy reach of a larger centre. It is 14 miles from Brecon and about 6 from Abergavenny, the site of the nearest railway station, with which Crickhowell is connected by a service of motor cars run by the Great Western Railway Company. Crickhowell is a pretty little town with a fine old church, the fragments of a castle, a many-arched bridge over the Usk, two public halls, and several places of interest in the immediate neighbourhood. Due attention has been paid to the water-supply and drainage, which are alike excellent.

In addition to the means of recreation named above, there is a good cricket club, and there is also a local pack of harriers.

The **Church**, a fine old cruciform building, was dedicated in 1303. It has been restored and has modern aisles. Recumbent figures in niches in the chancel represent Sir Grimbald Pauncefoot and his lady. The latter became a widow and then founded the church. From the graveyard there is a lovely view up the valley.

The **Castle,** the ivied fragments of which are now seen, was built in the thirteenth century by a Norman knight called Burghill, or Turberville, a companion of Bernard de Newmarch, the builder of Brecon Castle, but an artificial mound and an entrenched base court indicate that the site was a stronghold before the Norman invasion.

The **Town Hall** is the property of the Duke of Beaufort. The **Clarence Hall** is named after the King's eldest son, the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale, who laid the foundation-stone during a visit to the neighbourhood in 1890.

The bridge across the Usk has twelve arches, and is a favourite subject with artists.

At the west end of the town is the Late Perpendicular gateway of **Porth Mawr** (Great Gate). It forms the entrance to a private residence, and frames a lovely view of the valley of the Usk.

WALKS AND EXCURSIONS FROM CRICKHOWELL.

To the Vale of Grwyney.

Follow the Abergavenny road to Llangrwyney village (2 miles), and there take the first turn to the left and go up the vale as far as Llangenau Bridge, where take a lane that leads to Crickhowell and commands fine views of the Usk valley.

The Ascent of the Sugar Loaf.

From Crickhowell proceed to Llangenau by the lane indicated above. It leaves the town about midway between the Abergavenny road and the Usk. From Llangenau Bridge a lane leads to the shoulder of the mountain, and thence the ascent is up a grassy slope. The summit is 1,955 feet above sea-level, and by the route indicated is about 4 miles from Crickhowell. The view is charming.

To Partrishow.

Partrishow is 6 miles to the north-east of Crickhowell. Follow the road to **Llanbedr,** a little village beautifully situa-

ted, and from its church go almost due east to *Croes-fach* (1¾ m.), where keep to the left of the stream, the *Grwyne Fawr*, and at the next fork (about ¾ m.) again take the left branch, and then keep straight on for about 1¼ miles. The road is on the rise all the way. **Partrishow Church** (key at the neighbouring farm) is an unpretending building originally erected in the eleventh century and rebuilt in the time of Henry VII., the latter part of the fifteenth century. At the west end is a cell or chapel which is older than the present church. The font also may have belonged to the original building. According to the thirteenth century inscription the font was made by Genillin or Genyllyn, who lived in the eleventh century and was Lord of the Vale. Another interesting feature is a beautiful carved oak rood screen, beneath which are two stone altars. On the road, some fifty yards below the church, is a stone inscribed with two crosses directing the pilgrim of olden days to the **Holy Well of St. Mary,** about 200 yards up the brook, and once in great repute.

To Tretower (3¼ miles).

Leave Crickhowell by the Brecon road and at the end of a mile you are abreast of the **Gwern Vale Cromlech,** a poor specimen of such ancient burial-places, of which there are several in this part of Wales. Half a mile farther is a tree-covered mound supposed to have been a Roman watch-station. The farm bears the name of *Llanfair* (Mary Church), because it was the site of a chapel previous to the erection of Crickhowell Church. A mile beyond the mound, turn to the right to **Tretower** where, on the left, overlooking the Rhiangoll stream, are the fragments of a Castle which was once defended by Sir James Berkeley against Owen Glyndwr. The sole remaining tower has two fine chimney-pieces. Another object of interest is **Tretower Court,** the seat of the Vaughan family. It is a good specimen of a fourteenth-century house. The gate-house is unusually perfect. It is connected with the residence by an allure, or walk on the top of the wall, loopholed and covered by a roof.

To Puck's Dale.

On the south side of the Usk take the first turn to the left. The road, which at first runs quite close to the river, forms part of the route to **Llanelly,** which stands over 700 feet above the level of the sea. It can be approached *viâ* Glasllwyn Court by keeping to the left when the road forks, or more quickly by going on to the second turn on the left. By way of Glasllwyn it is about 4½ miles from Crickhowell bridge; by the alternative route the distance is not more than 3 miles. **Llanelly Great House** was the birthplace of Sir Bartle

Frere. A short walk from it is the romantic dingle called **Puck's Dale**—Nant-y-Pwcca—the reputed scene of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*. In the stream which flows through it are some small waterfalls.

ABERGAVENNY.

Situation.—On the Usk, at the confluence of the Gavenny, at the foot of three mountains, the Sugar Loaf, Blorenge and Skyrrid-y-fawr.

Approach.—By Great Western or London and North-Western Railway.

Angling.—Tickets for trout and salmon fishing can be obtained at the offices of the Abergavenny Corporation.

Banks.—*Capital and Counties, Birmingham, District and Counties, Lloyds*, and the *National Provincial*.

Bathing.—In the Usk.

Boating.—On the canal at Llanfoist, rather more than a mile from the town.

Churches and Chapels.—*St. Mary's* (Parish Church), *Holy Trinity* (Parish Church), *Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady and St. Michael*, and churches of the following denominations: *Presbyterian, Baptist, Wesleyan, Primitive Methodist and Brethren*.

Club.—The *County*. About 100 members.

Cricket.—There is a flourishing long-established club which annually arranges for about twenty matches. The ground is on Pennypound, about a quarter of a mile north from the town.

Distances.—

	MILES.		MILES.
Birmingham	85	London	166¼
Cheltenham	58	Swansea	53
Hereford	24	Worcester	51

Golf.—The Monmouthshire Golf Club has a nine-hole course on the right bank of the Usk. *See* p. 171.

Hotels.—*See* Introduction.

Hunting.—Some of the meets of the Llangibby Hounds are within easy access of Abergavenny.

Population.—7,800.

Postal.—The chief Post Office is in Cross Street opposite the Angel Hotel. There are four deliveries on week-days and one delivery on Sundays.

Railway Stations.—*Abergavenny* (G.W.R.) on the eastern side of the town; *Abergavenny, Brecon Road* (L. & N.-W.R.) in the western part of the town; *Abergavenny Junction*, used by both companies, is about a mile north-eastward of the town.

Tennis.—In the Castle grounds.

Abergavenny is a clean, well-lighted, healthy, flourishing market town, charmingly situated. It is well-drained and has a good supply of the purest water. It is protected from north-easterly winds, and by reason of the site being in a hollow, the air is rather relaxing, but on the high ground it is bracing enough. The town shares with Crickhowell the advantage of being one of the best starting-points for excursions into the Black Mountains. It is also the centre of many other delightful walks, and offers visitors and residents many sports and pastimes.

The main thoroughfare takes the direction of north-west to south-east, and is almost parallel to the Usk in this part of its course. It is known at various portions as Frogmore

Street, High Street, and Crow Street. The first named starts but a short distance from the L. & N.-W. Station, while the last-named portion is continued by Monmouth Road to the immediate vicinity of the G.W. Station. In and near this thoroughfare are some of the principal hotels and the **Town Hall,** which contains the Corporation Offices, an Assembly Room with sitting accommodation for 600 persons, the Poor Law Offices and the Free Library. Here, too, is the **Market Place,** the business resort of the population of an extensive mining district, and of the agriculturists of the counties of Monmouth, Hereford, and Brecknock. A few yards westward, in Monk Street, is

The Parish Church of St. Mary,

originally the church of a Benedictine Priory founded at the end of the eleventh century. It was much enlarged during the fourteenth century, and at various times has been in the hands of "restorers," not all of whom were worthy of the name. It is now a cruciform building, mainly in the Decorated and Perpendicular styles. It is 175 feet long and will accommodate 1,000 persons. The nave and aisles were last restored in 1882, and the rest of the building more recently. The tower contains a peal of eight bells.

The chancel contains twenty-four stalls of carved oak. They bear the name of Wynchester, who was prior in the fifteenth century. In the chancel, also, are the Herbert and Lewis Chapels. The **Herbert Chapel** is on the south side. It contains two ancient recumbent figures in oak. That against the east wall represents Jesse, the father of David, and was once the base of a genealogical tree of our Lord. The other is believed to be the effigy of George de Cantelupe, Lord of Abergavenny, who died in 1273. There is also an interesting series of altar tombs. On one are the effigies of Sir William ap Thomas (d. 1446), the ancestor of all the noble families of Herbert, including the present Earls of Pembroke and Carnarvon, and Gwladys, his second wife (d. 1454), daughter of Sir David Gam, who distinguished himself at Agincourt (*see* p. 32). The **Lewis Chapel,** on the north side of the chancel, also contains monuments. The earliest, much damaged, is supposed to be that of Eva, wife of William de Braose (d. 1246). Another is that of David Lewis, D.C.L., a native of Abergavenny and a Judge

of the High Court of Admiralty (d. 1584). The registers of the church date from 1653.

Near St. Mary's Church stands the old **Priory,** but so very much altered that it is of little interest. It has a fine oak staircase and panelled rooms.

Holy Trinity Church

is the centre of an interesting group of buildings standing on the Grofield in Baker Street, which is westward of High Street. On either side are four almshouses for church-women; on the south side is the vicarage; on the north are elementary schools. The whole block was built and endowed by Miss Rachel Herbert. The church was consecrated in 1840. It has been twice enlarged, and now seats 650 persons. It is in the late Perpendicular style. The stone slab forming the top of the communion table was originally the top of the high altar of the old **Parish Church of St. John,** situated in the centre of the ancient walled town. The slab, which was found in the wall of an inn, bears the consecration marks of the Norman period. Another relic of the ancient parish church is the Early English piscina in the sanctuary.

For some time previous to 1898, the old church of St. John was used as a Grammar School. It is now a Masonic Temple.

On rising ground above the junction of the Gavenny with the Usk, at the south-western end of the town, are the ruins of

The Castle.

Admission, *2d.* The entrance is at the top of Castle Street. From 7 a.m. until dusk, except on Sundays, when the grounds are not open until 12.30.

The grounds are tastefully laid out, provision is made for various amusements, and light refreshments can be obtained.

The Castle was founded soon after the Norman Conquest of England, but the principal remains belong to the fourteenth century. In the year 1177 it witnessed the massacre of the most renowned chieftains of Powis, who had been invited here by William de Braose, under pretext of celebrating Christmas. The deed was done to revenge the death of Henry of Hereford, uncle of William de Braose. The friends of the slaughtered chieftains retaliated by assaulting the castle. Having obtained possession, they burnt it to the ground and carried off the governor and his wife and all the

garrison as prisoners. The barony of Abergavenny is attached to the possession of the castle and is thus enjoyed not by creation but by tenure, like the earldom of Arundel.

Although the authentic

History of Abergavenny

begins with the erection of the castle, there is reason to believe that the story goes much farther back. Whether the town is the modern representative of the Roman *Gobannium* is a point on which antiquaries are not agreed, but the various Roman remains that have been discovered go a long way to prove that the spot was occupied by the first conquerors of the Britons.

The struggles of the de Braoses with the Welsh made Abergavenny a place of much importance in the border warfare of that period. Then followed a time of quietude, which was broken by the operations of Owen Glyndwr, who summoned the town to surrender, as it was held for the English King, Henry IV. After a short conflict the Welsh Prince gained admission and reduced the place to ashes. It is said that his success was facilitated by a woman who opened the gates at midnight.

During the struggle between Charles I. and the Parliament, Abergavenny was a Royalist stronghold. Sir Trevor Williams of Llanibby and four other prominent Parliamentarians of Monmouthshire who had been arrested and confined in Abergavenny Castle were personally tried by the King during his visit to Wales, after the battle of Naseby. Charles is said to have been so moved by the tears and entreaties of Sir Trevor that he spared the lives of the prisoners, an act of leniency which provoked the Marquis of Worcester to say, "Well, sir, you may chance to gain you the kingdom of heaven by such doings as these, but if ever you get the kingdom of England by such ways, I will be your bondsman."

When the crown was given to William and Mary the inhabitants of Abergavenny through their representatives refused to take the oath of allegiance to the new sovereigns. As a punishment the town was deprived of its charter, which has only recently been restored.

At one time Abergavenny was famed for its Welsh white flannels and exported large quantities to India. It has also been famed for its periwigs. The commercial importance of the town declined when the construction of turnpike roads enabled the wholesale traders of London and Bristol to send their travellers into Wales. As some compensation, the roads enabled the town to become a health resort during the period when physicians prescribed whey from goats'

milk as a cure for consumption, for it happened that large herds of goats were kept on the neighbouring mountains.

WALKS AND EXCURSIONS FROM ABERGAVENNY.

Along the Riverside. From the vicinity of the Castle entrance, a path leads to the River Usk, and thence goes westward to the bridge, beyond which the path is continued to **Llanwenarth Ferry,** about 1½ miles from the bridge. The ferry (toll 1*d.*) gives speedy access to **Govilon,** a picturesque village from which the return to Abergavenny can be made by rail, road or canal towpath, (*see* below.)

Alongside the Brecon and Newport Canal. The nearest point of the canal to Abergavenny is at Llanfoist. Proceed to the south side of the bridge and beyond the Bridge Inn turn to the right. Immediately beyond the brewery turn to the left, up a narrow lane which is continued by a footpath that leads to a tunnel under the canal. A stile on the right near the tunnel gives access to the towpath at a point nearly a mile from the bridge.

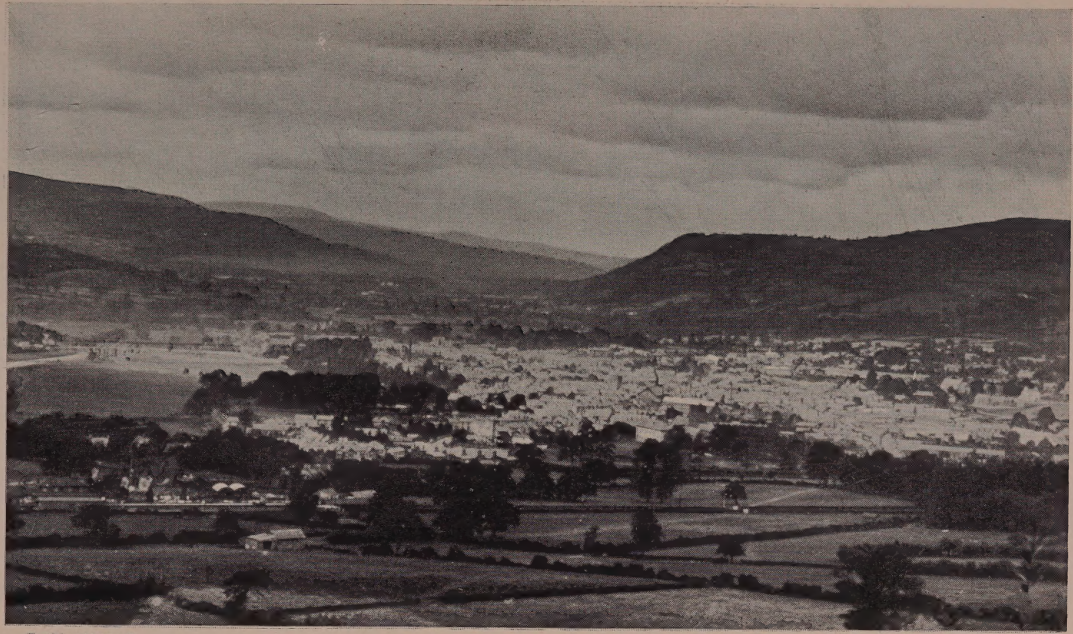
(1) *In a south-easterly direction.* Continue along the path for nearly 2 miles and there, just before reaching the third bridge, turn into a lane, which soon meets the Llanelen Road. There turn to the right for the village of **Llanelen.** It has a fine stone bridge over the Usk, erected by John Upton of Gloucester, the engineer of the fortifications of Sebastopol. It is about 2 miles by the high-road from Abergavenny.

(2) *Towards the north-west.* The village of **Govilon** is reached at the end of 1½ miles from Llanfoist and from it the return to Abergavenny can be made by rail, by high-road, or the riverside (*see* the first walk). From Govilon the walk alongside the canal can be continued to **Gilwern,** a village prettily situated at the entrance to the Clydach Valley, and much frequented for boating on the canal. It is a good 1½ miles beyond Govilon. The return can be made by train from Gilwern station.

The walk alongside the canal can be extended to **Llangattock** (Llangattwg), a distance of about 5 miles, and then the return could be made from Crickhowell by motor car. Llangattock is situated near the south end of Crickhowell Bridge.

The Ascent of Little Skirrid.

The hill lies behind the G.W.R. station and forms part of Coldbrook Park. The summit (886 feet) is under a mile from the station. It commands a fine view of the town and of a portion of the valley of the Usk. The route is over the footbridge at the station, then south for 160 yards and then alongside a hedge and watercourse. The latter has to be



E. Shackleton,] *[Abergavenny.*

ABERGAVENNY, THE "GATE OF WALES."

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,] [*Dundee.*

LLANTHONY ABBEY.

crossed at a point where a path bounded by wire fences leads from it towards the summit.

The Ascent of the Great Skirrid, or Holy Mountain.

The summit (1,596 feet) is 4 miles from the town. Follow the Ross road to a point rather more than 2¼ miles from the town and there take a stile on the left. Keep near to the hedge on the right and ascend to the wood about midway up the second field. Follow the path winding up through the wood to a gate in a wall. There turn to the right and proceed to another gate in the same boundary, where turn sharp to the left. Keep to the left of a hillock standing in front and make for a gap in the hill ahead. The route lies along the gap until boggy ground is reached, and there it winds round to the right to a path which leads up to the ridge. This is nearly a mile long, very narrow, and rises in a series of humps to the summit, where there are a deep fissure and a precipice caused by a great landslip, which tradition says occurred on the night of the Crucifixion. The view from the summit is very extensive on every side, but especially towards the west, where the chief features are the Sugar Loaf and the Black Mountains. Towards the north-east are Hereford Cathedral and the Malvern Hills; eastward are the Forest of Dean and the towers of White Castle, a crumbling Norman fortress much visited by picnic parties; towards the south-west is the Blorenge, while in the south are the Bristol Channel and the Mendip Hills.

The Ascent of the Blorenge (1,832 feet).

This is a huge, heavy mass on the south side of the Usk. Its name signifies the Blue Ridge. The ascent is more difficult than that of the Great Skirrid and the route goes over much soft ground. Follow the Merthyr road over the Usk, and a little beyond the first milestone bear to the left. In less than half a mile you come to a lane on the left and a footpath on the opposite side of the road. Follow the footpath to a bridge over the canal. Cross the bridge and then ascend the lane leading from it. Take the first turn to the right. (Towards the left from this part of the route there is a good view of a richly wooded circular hollow called the *Punchbowl*.) Just beyond a cottage a field-path leads to the open mountain, up which the climber can strike across to the summit. The view in almost every direction is rich and varied, but is particularly charming over the Valley of the Usk.

The Ascent of the Sugar Loaf (1,955 feet).

This height owes its name to its conical head. Its ascent is the favourite excursion from Abergavenny, and with the

exception of the last 500 feet the climb is not a difficult one. Indeed, it is possible to drive almost to the top by way of Triley, and from Abergavenny there is a zigzag path for ponies. The charge for one of these is 5*s*. The distance from the town to the summit by the usual route is about 3½ miles. The time occupied by the ascent and descent may be anything over 3 hours.

Proceed to the Brecon Road station, and pass under the right-hand arch. Follow Chapel Road for rather more than half a mile to a wicket-gate adjacent to a drive-gate on the left. Pass through the wicket-gate and follow the footpath from it into a lane. Ascend the lane for a few hundred yards and then, when faced by a white cottage, turn sharp to the right. A steep climb takes you to the open hillside of the *Rholben*, a shoulder of the mountain. Thence the ascent may be continued by a steep green path or by the more gently sloping pony path. The summit is a narrow ridge some 300 yards in length. It commands a charming view extending from the Bristol Channel S.S.E. to the Malvern Hills E.N.E.

To Llanthony Priory and the New Abbey.

The former is 11 miles from Abergavenny, the latter 15 miles. Four miles of walking each way can be saved by taking the train to and from Llanfihangel station.

Llanthony is a hamlet situated in the sequestered valley of Ewyas, in the heart of the Black Mountains. Its name is an abbreviation of **Llandewi Nant Honddu,** "the Church of St. David on the Honddu brook."

The **Priory,** often called the Abbey, was an Augustine monastery founded in the opening years of the twelfth century. It is now a venerable ruin. The greater part of the work is in the Transitional style of architecture, but some portions are as late as the fourteenth century. Much of the church remains. Its total length is 212 feet, its breadth 50 feet, and the transept 96 feet from north to south. Adjoining the south transept is the Sacristy, which is still perfect, and next to it is a good part of the Chapter House. The Prior's Lodge and the south-west Tower have been converted into the *Abbey Hotel.* Next to this is a farmhouse called the Court. Across a field to the south-west of the farmhouse is the gatehouse of the Priory, now used as a barn. A short distance south of the ruined Priory is the little Parish Church, a restored Norman structure with a fine roof and an ancient font. It is dedicated to St. David, as the full name of the hamlet indicates.

For some years Llanthony was the residence of Walter Savage Landor, the poet, author of the celebrated *Conversations.* He died in 1864.

Llanthony Abbey, 4 miles higher up the valley, is a modern conventual institution founded by the Anglican clergyman known as Father Ignatius. At present it consists only of the choir of the church and the cloisters. Their style is copied from the old priory. The church is open for Sunday services and on Ascension Day and the Anniversary of the Apparition of our Lady of Llanthony (a vision of the Virgin Mary seen by Father Ignatius). The Anniversary is on August 30. On that day and on Ascension Day there are continuous public services in the Abbey Church. They are attended by hundreds of devout pilgrims and others.

To Raglan Castle.

This road excursion of 9 miles, south-west of Abergavenny, should certainly be taken, if possible, for the castle has been well described as "the most perfect decorated stronghold of which this country can boast—a romance in stone and lime." (*Admission 6d*). The ruins mainly belong to the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, but a castle is known to have occupied the site in the time of Henry II. During the Civil War, the fortress, under its owner, the gallant Marquis of Worcester, then over eighty years of age, sustained a ten weeks' siege by the Parliamentarians under Fairfax, and only surrendered when all hope was lost. The brunt of the attack was borne by the keep, which is now approached by a rustic bridge across the moat. A staircase leads to the top, which commands an extensive view. The ruins of the castle are carefully preserved by the Lord of the Manor, the Duke of Beaufort.

Raglan Church contains several monuments to members of the Somerset family.

To Usk.

Usk is a small town and famous angling station, charmingly situated on the river of the same name. It lies S.S.W. of Abergavenny, from which it is 11 miles distant by road. It can be reached by rail *viâ* Little Mill. Usk contains the ivy-mantled shell of a castle destroyed during the Civil War, and a church which formerly belonged to a Benedictine nunnery. At the dissolution of the priory, the choir, which had been used by the nuns, was pulled down, and the space under the tower was converted into a chancel for use with the nave, to which the parishioners had previously been confined. The arches of the tower are Norman, while the architecture of the nave is in the Decorated style, with Perpendicular alterations.

Abergavenny to Crickhowell (6 m.) and **Brecon** (20 m.) by G.W.R. Motor Car *see* pp. 28 and 37.

About midway between Abergavenny and Newport is **Pontypool Road,** an important junction from which travellers from Hereford to Swansea go westward through **Pontypool** (1 m., the centre of a busy mining and manufacturing district) and over the famous **Crumlin Viaduct** (4 or 5 m. farther), one of the engineering wonders of the West. The viaduct is in two portions; the longer is over the Ebbwglen, the shorter over a side valley. A fair view can be obtained from the train, but the viaduct can only be properly seen from below. It is 1,700 feet long, its greatest height is 210 feet, and it cost over £60,000. It is remarkable for its lightness and graceful appearance. The spans are of open iron work, known as "Warren's Girders"; the piers are cast-iron tubes braced together and tapering as they rise.

NEWPORT.

Situation.—Near the mouth of the Usk.
Distances.—Cardiff, 12 miles; Paddington, 141; Swansea, 57½.
Hotels.—*See* Introduction.
Population.—Over 80,000.
Postal Address.—Newport. (Formerly Mon. for Monmouthshire was a necessary addition to distinguish the town from Newport in Pembrokeshire, Newport in the Isle of Wight, and various other places of the same name, but all inferior in size and importance).
Railways.—Newport is on the main line of the Great Western Railway and Restaurant Car non-stop trains run between it and Paddington. It is connected with the Midlands and the North by way of Hereford, and it is the focus of various lines from the mineral districts of Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire.
Trams.—A service of electric trams radiates in every direction from the Westgate Hotel, in the centre of the town, to the boundary of the borough.

Newport has become a busy, prosperous commercial town through being the natural port for Monmouthshire and a great part of the South Wales coalfield. Its development has been assisted by Viscount Tredegar in a manner similar to that by which the rise of Cardiff was made possible by the Marquis of Bute. In the year 1842 the Town Dock was opened, and large additions have been rendered necessary by the enormous growth of the export and import trade, and the very extensive development of what is practically a virgin coalfield in the Sirhowy Valley, for the product of which Newport is the natural port of shipment.

The **North Alexandra Dock,** opened in 1875, is 28¾ acres in extent. The **South Alexandra Dock,** opened in the last decade of the nineteenth century, originally comprised 20 acres. The recent addition of 50 acres has made it the largest single dock in the world. The lock by which it is approached is 1,000 feet in length and 100 feet in width, and enables vessels of the largest size to enter at all states of the tide.

Notwithstanding its name, the town is not a place of

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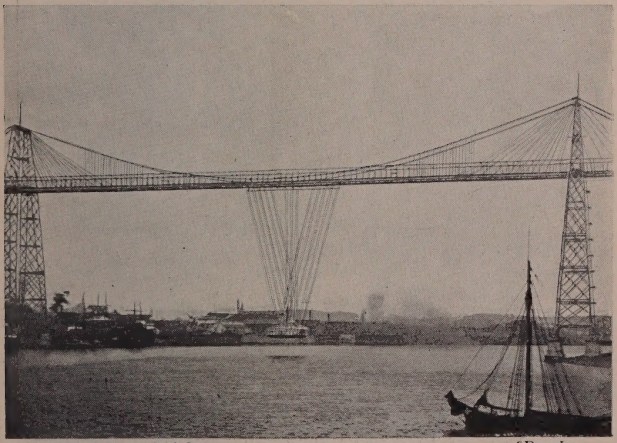
HIGH STREET, NEWPORT.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,] [*Dundee.*

TRANSPORTER BRIDGE, NEWPORT.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,] *[Reigate.*

CAERLEON.

yesterday. Its origin dates back at least to the time of the Romans, and that it was a place of importance in the twelfth century is evident by its castle and church. The former, founded about 1130 by the Earl of Gloucester, is now represented by three ruined towers.

The visitor who arrives at the railway station steps from that into the **High Street.** By proceeding towards the right he will arrive at the **Westgate Hotel,** which contains a carefully preserved wooden pillar bearing marks of bullets discharged during an attack made in 1839 by a Chartist mob.

Fronting the hotel are Commercial Street and Dock Street, both leading down to the docks. Behind the hotel is Stow Hill, half a mile south of the station, on the top of which is the old **Parish Church of St. Woollos** (a corruption of Gwynlliw), which has been so carefully restored that its Norman features have been preserved. The tower was built by Jasper Tudor, whose mutilated effigy is on the western front. Separating the tower from the main body of the church is the Chapel of St. Mary, which is thought to occupy the site of a church founded in the sixth century. Between the nave and St. Mary's Chapel is a Norman arch which Mr. E. A. Freeman pronounced to be probably the most remarkable example of its class of architecture in the whole kingdom.

A little beyond the church is **Belle Vue Park,** a public recreation ground laid out with drives, walks, terraces, conservatories, rockeries, and a miniature lake. Both from the park and the vicinity of the church the prospect is very delightful. Another good view-point is **Beechwood Park,** on the opposite side of the town.

On the outskirts of the town are well-made paths that form pleasant promenades. Opposite the top of Godfrey Road is one that leads through scenery that has led to the place being locally known as "Little Switzerland." On the west side of the town is **Tredegar House,** the seat of the Lord of the Manor. A road runs through the fine park.

Below the old bridge, which carries the high-road over the Usk, is a peculiar structure known as the **Transporter Bridge.** It was opened in 1906 to provide communication between the busy mercantile centres of the western side with the eastern bank, to which huge factories and iron and steel works are steadily migrating from all parts of England. The exceptionally high tide of the Usk and the volume of trade made either a ferry or a swing bridge impracticable. On each side of the river

is a lofty steel tower. Over the top strong steel cables are carried and strained from massive anchorages. From the cables is suspended a platform, with a railway track on its underside. On this track is a trolley, from which hang down steel ropes supporting a platform at the level of the roadways on each side of the river. When this platform has received its load of passengers and vehicles, the trolley above, actuated by electric power, travels across the river, carrying with it the loaded platform. The time occupied by the passage is one minute. The distance between the faces of the towers is 592 feet, and the height of the towers above the road is 241½ feet. The platform, cables, etc., are sufficiently high to clear the masts of vessels passing beneath.

Newport is within easy reach of Chepstow and the Wye, Tintern Abbey, Raglan Castle, Caerphilly Castle and many other points of interest (*see* our *Guide to the Wye Valley*), including some to which excursion steamers make trips. Its special show place, however, is

Caerleon,

2½ miles distant by rail, and 3 miles by road, the *Isca Silurum* of the Romans, the traditional capital of King Arthur, now an insignificant hamlet. The Roman city is reputed to have been 9 miles in area, and when Arthur held his Court at Caerleon "thirteen churches were set apart for mass," but while relics of the early Romans are found in abundance, not a trace can be discovered of the surpassing glory of the Arthurian capital. The architecture of the **Church** is mainly Perpendicular, but there is one Norman bay. Near the church is a **Museum** (admission *6d.*), containing numerous relics of the Roman occupation. In one of the visitors' books is the autograph of Tennyson, who spent some time in the place getting local colour for his version of the Arthurian legend, as did also Lord Lytton. The road opposite the Museum leads to **Arthur's Round Table,** a hollow surrounded by a mound, in a field on the left, just beyond the Priory gate. It was evidently a Roman amphitheatre. Nearer the river is the *Hanbury Arms*, one of the oldest hostelries in the kingdom. It dates from the fourteenth or fifteenth century. Here Tennyson lodged. Behind the inn is the remnant of a tower which once guarded the Roman bridge. By following the street from the inn, the Castle Mound will be seen on an enclosed site.

CARDIFF, LLANDAFF, PENARTH, BARRY, ETC.

OF the centres with which this section deals, Cardiff can take first place only out of regard to its vast commercial importance. Although it is annually visited by large numbers of holiday-makers from the surrounding country, it is not a place in which pleasure-seekers make an extended stay. At the same time, it contains features of great general interest.

CARDIFF.

General Information.

Angling.—In the Taff and Ely rivers and at Roath Park.

Boating.—On the Taff and at Roath Park.

Communication by Rail and Sea.—Cardiff is on the Great Western main line, and is connected with the London and North-Western, Midland, Taff Vale, Rhymney, and Barry Railways. There are periodical sailings to and from Aberdeen, Belfast, Glasgow, Greenock, Swansea, Cork, Dublin, Hull, Liverpool, London, and Bristol. Also pleasure trips across the Bristol Channel to Weston-super-Mare, Minehead, Ilfracombe, etc.

Distances.—

	MILES.		MILES.
Barry	8	Llandaff	2½
Birmingham	119	Newcastle	310
Bristol (*rail*)	40	Newport	11½
Bristol (*water*)	28	Penarth	4
Caerphilly	7	Porthcawl	30
Castle Coch	6	Swansea	45
Clevedon	17	Tenby (*by water*)	76
Liverpool	140	Waterford	152
London	170	Weston-super-Mare	11

Golf.—Radyr Golf Club; at Radyr, 5 miles, and the Glamorganshire Golf Club at Penarth, 4 miles. *See* p. 171.

Hotels.—*See* Introduction.

Local Time.—12 minutes, 40·4 seconds behind that of Greenwich.

Omnibuses.—Hotel 'Buses to and from the station. 'Buses also from St. Mary's Street to Penarth, 4*d.*; and from the Castle to Llandaff, 2½*d.*; and Motor 'Buses from North Road to Whitchurch, 3*d.*

Population.—(1901) 164,420.

Post Office.—In Westgate Street.

Railway Stations.—*Great Western Railway*, at the foot of St. Mary Street, *Taff Vale Railway* (for the Rhondda Valleys) and *Rhymney Railway* both at the east end of Queen Street, half a mile from the G.W.R. station.

Steamers.—From the Harbour to Penarth, Bristol, Weston-Super-Mare, Ilfracombe, etc. *See* also under "Communication." Barry and Bristol Steamship Co., Merchants' Exchange, or Cook & Son, 2, Duke Street. The latter also for the boats of P. & A. Campbell.

Theatres, etc. The New Theatre, the New Empire, Park Hall, etc.

Tramcars.—There is a very efficient and extensive electric tram service.

Through the enlightened policy of its citizens, Cardiff is one of the handsomest commercial centres of the kingdom. It has broad streets, fine buildings, and several pleasant parks and public gardens.

Its growth has been phenomenal. In 1801 the population was 1,018. At the census of 1901 it was 164,420. The city owes its rapid rise and prosperity to its geographical position, to the mineral wealth in its immediate vicinity, and to the enterprise of individuals interested in its development. Its situation at the mouth of the Taff Valley, and its possession of a roadstead and harbour combined to make it the natural outlet for the South Wales coalfield.

It seems almost incredible that little more than a hundred years ago the coal shipped from Cardiff was carried down to the port on the backs of mules. But that was the common mode of transport until the completion of the Glamorganshire Canal in 1798. The Canal, 25½ miles in length, connected Cardiff with the coal and iron-producing district of Merthyr. It was a spirited undertaking for its day and is still in use, although it has been largely superseded by the railways that became necessary after the opening of the first dock.

Although Cardiff, as we see it, is the growth of much less than a century, yet its history dates back to ancient times. The Romans established themselves upon the site, and when their legions were withdrawn, the place became part of the great kingdom of Morganwg, and from the end of the fifth to the end of the eleventh century, it was under the sway of a succession of Welsh princes, the last of whom was dispossessed by a Norman knight, Sir Robert Fitzhamon, whose aid in the settlement of their quarrels had been invoked by certain native chiefs. Fitzhamon seated himself at Cardiff as Lord of Glamorgan, and rebuilt the Castle. By the marriage of Fitzhamon's only daughter and heiress, the lordship passed into the hands of the Earls of Gloucester. In the reign of Henry I. Cardiff Castle became the prison of the King's eldest brother, Robert, Duke of Normandy, the captive having been committed by the King to the care of the Earl of Gloucester. In the year 1158, nearly a quarter of a century after the Duke of Normandy's death, the Welsh made a successful attack upon Cardiff. The castle was well garrisoned, and the paid retainers of the lord filled the town, but the Welsh gained possession of the stronghold, and carried off the Earl, the Countess, and

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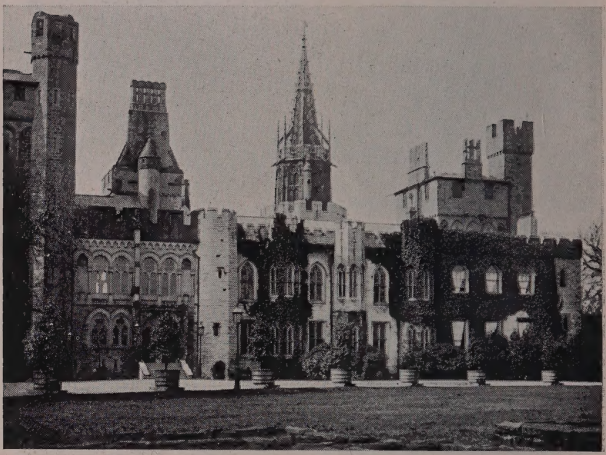
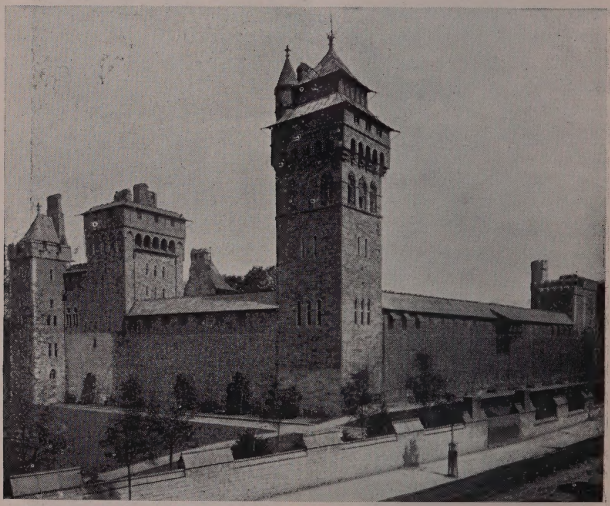
TOWN HALL AND LAW COURTS, CARDIFF.



T. L. Howe,] [*Penarth.*



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CARDIFF CASTLE.

their only son. The captives were retained until the grievances of the Welsh had been redressed and valuable concessions had been granted to them.

The town and castle were almost entirely destroyed by Owen Glyndwr in 1404, during the insurrection of the Welsh, in the reign of Henry IV. It is said that the only part of the town which escaped was the street containing the Grey Friars' Convent, and that owed its immunity solely to the love which Glyndwr had for the fraternity.

From the Earls of Gloucester, the castle passed to the De Spensers; from them to the Warwick family; and finally to the Crown by the marriage of Richard III. with the Lady Ann of Warwick. After various other changes of possession it was sold by Edward VI. to Sir William Herbert, afterwards Earl of Pembroke, from whom it passed to the Earls of Windsor, and from them by marriage to the House of Bute, where it yet remains.

During the Marian persecutions Cardiff contributed a victim: Rawlins White, an aged fisherman, was burnt at the stake in the High Street in 1555, as may be read in Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*. In the reign of Elizabeth, Cardiff gained notoriety as a nest of "rioters, cut-throats and pirates who infested the Bristol Channel." A Justice of the Peace sought to excuse himself for not arresting a certain pirate, "as Cardiff is the general resort of pirates, where they are sheltered and protected," but in the same year (1557) sixty of the pirates were subjected to legal examination. A few years later (1602), instead of harrying the Spaniards, as the sea-rovers from the other side of the Channel loved to do, the people of Cardiff were supplying the foe with cannon cast near the town.

During the Civil War the town and castle were at first held for the King. They changed hands more than once, and then the Royalists were finally defeated at St. Fagan's, between 3 and 4 miles from the town.

Through the City.

The foot of St. Mary Street, hard by the Great Western Railway Station, is the site of a *Statue to a Marquis of Bute*, and the starting-point of various tramcars and other public conveyances. Standing here, with his face towards St. Mary Street, the visitor has before him the Castle, Cathays Park, and the principal public buildings of general interest;

behind him, towards the right, are the Docks. In St. Mary Street and in High Street, which continues it, are some of the fine arcades which are a special feature of the city. Near the junction of the two portions of the thoroughfare is the **Old Town Hall,** a classical-looking building, handsome enough for Cardiff when it was erected in the middle of the nineteenth century, but far from suitable for the altered circumstances of the city fifty years later, and very properly superseded by an imposing structure in Cathays Park. At the farther end of High Street are Castle Street, to the left, and Duke Street, to the right. Facing them is

Cardiff Castle.

Open to visitors from 11 to 1 and from 2 to 4. Fee, 1*s*.

The Castle occupies an area of 10 acres. So far as was necessary to convert it into a lordly residence, it has been thoroughly restored during late years at great cost, so that it presents a very modern appearance. Entrance is through an ancient gateway opposite High Street. On the left is a square tower called **Duke Robert's Tower,** after Robert, Duke of Normandy, from the tradition that it was his place of confinement from 1106 to 1135, but it was not built until long after his time. The fortress consisted of two wards, the outer containing the shire hall and other buildings, the inner the castle proper. The wards were divided by a thick wall, of which only the foundations remain. The **Keep** of the old fortress is now but a shell and stands isolated on an artificial mound. It does not date from an earlier time than the year 1400.

The rampart has been planted with shrubs and laid out as a terrace walk. On the wall separating the Castle grounds from Castle Street are lifelike figures of various animals, modelled by *Nicholls*.

The modern work includes the curtain wall which runs from the entrance tower to the present **Clock Tower.** The latter was built to improve the appearance of the town, to provide a public clock, and a set of private apartments for the lord of the castle. From the top there is a prospect extending thirty miles in every direction. By the side of each face of the clock are statues of Mars, Jupiter, Sol, etc., and the pedestals upon which they stand are carved with the signs of the zodiac, governed by the heavenly bodies represented by the respective statues. The roof is covered with lead decorated with tinned stars. In the interior of the tower, on a level with the curtain wall, is the winter smoking-room.

On the walls are light-coloured figures, with a background of dark blue. The upper part of the windows is filled with glass, displaying representations of the gods from whom our Saxon ancestors named the days of the week. The central boss of the vaulting is carved into a representation of the sun. On the spandrils of the vaulting and in circles on the walls are the twelve signs of the zodiac. Also on the walls are delineated the occupations of the four seasons. The frieze of the chimney-piece shows the amusements of lovers during the winter, while above stands the figure of Cupid with the conventional bow and arrow. The apartment above is used as a bedroom. On a white ground are outline figures illustrative of the precious stones and metals. The next apartment contains the clock, and above that is the kitchen. The uppermost apartment is a summer smoking-room. The floor is of tiles representing the length of the lives of the various animals. The frieze of the chimney-piece represents Love in Summer. Between the windows are painted tiles illustrating the legends of the zodiac. Above all these are a gallery and a clerestory. The latter is surmounted by a dome bearing representations of the four elements and the constellations.

The **Grand Staircase** leads from the Entrance Hall to the **Great Hall,** and from it entrance is also obtained to the **Banqueting Hall,** which is lined with walnut wainscotting surmounted by frescoes representing incidents in the life of Robert, Earl of Gloucester. From this apartment a beautiful octagonal staircase leads to the Library and the **Private Chapel.** The latter is one of the richest portions of the Castle. It is lined with marble diapered with enamelled shields, and on both walls and ceiling are beautiful illustrations of sacred subjects. The altar represents the tomb of the crucified Christ, and there are bronze figures of the guards. The **Library** is a magnificent apartment measuring 75 feet by 23 feet. It is specially rich in works pertaining to ecclesiastical history.

Of the decorations of the castle as a whole it has been said they " are not only legible, but to read them is a treat to educated people. The thoughts and occupations of the owner are translated on the things surrounding him. There is a style in them—not the style of the multitude, but of a grand seigneur, who from circumstances has more sympathy with the past than with the present; who is poet enough to choose poetical subjects for the decoration of the rooms, and who, blessed with vast hereditary possessions, chooses to make a little world of them and live in it."

By going **westward** along Castle Street we come to the northern end of Westgate Street, the site of

The Post Office,

one of the finest establishments of its kind in the provinces. The total cost of the land and building was £100,000. Perhaps no better aid to the appreciation of the great and rapid growth of Cardiff is afforded than a comparison of its post office to-day with that which served it towards the middle of last century. Even in 1840, when the trade had received a great impetus, and the population was nearly 10,000, the postal business was done at one small office by a solitary post woman, and there was but one delivery a day. There are now eight deliveries a day in the town area, the employées number 1,200, of whom about a third are in the telegraph department, and the instrument room in the central office has accommodation for no fewer than 300 operators.

Between Westgate Street and the river Taff is the **Cardiff Arms Park,** of 21 acres, placed at the disposal of the principal athletic clubs by the Marquis of Bute.

Castle Street is continued westward by Cowbridge Road, which is carried over the river by the **Cardiff** or **Canton Bridge,** a highly picturesque structure. From it there is a charming view both up and down the stream, especially when there is abundance of water.

Of the various bridges over the Taff, the **Clarence Bridge,** in the neighbourhood of the docks, is the nearest to the mouth of the river. It comprises a central swinging span of 190 feet, providing two openings, each of a clear width of 72 feet, for the passage of vessels. At the time of its erection it was the largest swinging-road bridge in the country. The bridge was opened by the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale in 1890.

Having crossed Cardiff Bridge, we have on our right the **Sophia Gardens,** another of the several public recreation grounds possessed by the city, whose open spaces comprise altogether some 400 acres. The pretty gardens we have reached take their name from the Marchioness of Bute, at whose instance they were laid out and presented to the town by her son, the late Marquis. They afford a grand view of the Castle. In their rear is an extensive field that is held by the public for the purpose of recreation.

Running along the west side of Sophia Gardens is Cathedral Road, forming one of the approaches to Llandaff and containing the larger of the two Jewish Synagogues in the city. It is a very noticeable building, by reason of its Oriental style.

Going **eastward** from the castle, we enter Duke Street, a short

thoroughfare too narrow for tram lines. It is continued eastward by Queen Street, the busiest business thoroughfare in Wales. At the junction of Duke Street and Queen Street, a turning on the left leads to Cathays Park (*see* p. 60), while on the right is a thoroughfare mainly parallel to St. Mary Street. Successive portions are named St. John Street, Working Street, and the Hayes. Then Mill Lane winds round to the right to the Bute Monument at the foot of St. Mary Street, while straight ahead is Bute Street, more than a mile long, and running for the greater part of the distance alongside the Bute West Dock. Taking the objects of special interest along this southern route from Duke Street, we have first

St. John's Church,

the only religious edifice in Cardiff appealing strongly to the archæologist. A sixteenth century writer speaks of it as a "faire church," and remarks that the steeple "of all skilful behoulders is very well liked of," a description which still applies. The style is mainly Perpendicular, although many of its original characteristics have been lost during successive "restorations." How little some of the work deserved to be spoken of as "restoration" may be gathered from a local historian's eulogy of the vandalism wrought about the middle of last century. Writing in 1854, he says, "During the last few years great taste has been displayed in restoring the church. The gaudy painting and gilding with which it was decorated have been carefully scraped off, and the walls coloured, which has added to the beauty of the venerable structure." The tower is the finest in South Wales, but it is so closely surrounded by other buildings that much of the effect of its graceful proportions is lost. It contains a peal of ten bells and a clock, and is surmounted by four open stone lanterns richly ornamented with pinnacles and vanes. The tower was built in 1443 by one Hart, who probably erected the noble steeples of Wrexham and of St. Stephen's, Bristol. The cost was defrayed by the Lady Ann Warwick, who became the wife of Richard III.

The interior of the church contains various features of interest. Stained-glass windows in the north aisle and the Herbert Chapel contain the Bute Arms, including quarterings belonging to the noble families of Plantagenet, Neville, Beauchamp, Herbert, Stuart, Windsor, Hastings, and others. Here also are fine monuments to members of the Herbert family of the old Grey Friars Priory, ancestors of the Marquis of Bute, viz. Sir John, Secretary to Queen Elizabeth and James I., and Sir William, afterwards Earl of Pembroke and

first Lord of Cardiff. One of the quaint epitaphs records that—

> " Here lies Anne Herbert by her Hvsband's syde,
> His ever lovinge wife she livd and dyed."

The stone reredos is the work of a local sculptor. On the corbels of the wall-shafts in the chancel are heads intended to illustrate the continuity of the Church. They begin with John the Baptist and the Apostle Paul and include Rawlins White (the Protestant martyr of Cardiff), Archbishop Laud, Drs. Pusey and Keble, the then Bishop of Llandaff, and Canon Thompson, the vicar under whom the building was much renovated.

But for a disastrous flood 300 years ago, St. John's would have had a serious rival in the parish church of St. Mary, an imposing building that was undermined and washed away in January, 1607. In 1843 it was replaced by the present **St. Mary's Church,** which has accommodation for some 1,800 worshippers.

There are over twenty other Anglican churches in the city, but none of special interest to the visitor. There are several Roman Catholic churches, for there is a large Roman Catholic population, and many other Nonconformist places of worship.

Working Street is the site of

The Central Library,

an imposing structure opened in 1896 by His Majesty, then Prince of Wales. It comprises a large and handsome general reading-room, a large ladies' reading-room, a lending library, and a reference library which contains many rare and valuable books and MSS. The Welsh department of the reference library is the largest and most complete collection relating to Wales available freely for public use. It consists of manuscripts of priceless value, printed books in Welsh and relating to Wales, prints, drawings, photographs, and other miscellaneous collections illustrative of Welsh history and literature.

Branch lending libraries and reading-rooms have been established in various districts, and there is commendable co-operation between the libraries and the schools.

The Public Library Building is also the temporary quarters of the **Museum and Art Gallery.** The latter has been greatly enriched by valuable gifts, including a large oil painting " Noon on the Surrey Hills " by the late Vicat Cole, R.A., and a magnificent collection of thirty-eight oil-paintings, estimated to be worth about £10,000. The Museum boasts of an exceptionally fine collection of old Welsh (Nantgarw and Swansea) porcelain, an excellent collection of Welsh sculpture, exten-

sive collections of fossils and minerals, and various other treasures, including a water-colour sketch of Cardiff, made about the middle of last century by the mother of General Baden-Powell.

As Cardiff is the chief coal-port in the world,

The Docks

are a very notable feature. They are remarkable alike for their size and for their appliances for the loading and unloading of vessels. The first docks were constructed by the second Marquis of Bute, who was moved to undertake the work by the fact that deficiency of accommodation for ships was the only hindrance to an immense rise in the value of his extensive tracts of mineral property. In 1830 he obtained the necessary Act of Parliament, and nine years later the **West Bute Dock** was opened. Then railways were constructed and the increased volume of trade which they brought down had to be met by corresponding dock accommodation. The **Bute East Dock** was opened in 1889, the **Roath Basin** in 1874, and the **Roath Dock** in 1899. As trade still continued to increase, the construction of a new dock of 42 acres was undertaken. This was opened by the King in 1907 and is known as the **Queen Alexandra Dock.** In 1886 a radical change was made in the proprietary of the Bute Docks. They were transferred to a public company by virtue of powers contained in an Act of Parliament.

The appliances for shipping coal and dealing expeditiously with the various sections of the trade of the port are of the most approved type. The Lewis-Hunter coal-loading cranes are specially noteworthy. By their means a wagon is gently tipped at quay-level into a large iron box, or hopper, sunk into a hollow provided for it. The box with its contents is then lifted high enough to clear the side and deck gear of the ship, swung on board, lowered through the hatchway and emptied by lowering the cone-shaped bottom. The coal is thus quietly dropped in the exact spot desired, with a minimum of handling and breakage. Three or four hatchways can be loaded at the same time, and as much as 7,000 tons have been put aboard a ship in twenty-four hours. The character of the despatch can be best realized, perhaps, by noting that 7,000 tons means 700 wagons of 10 tons each. Allowing 50 wagons to a train, it follows that the contents of fourteen trains, and long ones, can be placed in one vessel in

twenty-four hours. The warehouse accommodation includes cold stores for perishable articles. There is a foreign cattle wharf, from which the cattle are driven to extensive lairs adjacent to slaughter-houses and chill-rooms. Near the docks are engineering works and dry docks for repairing ships. The imports are principally timber, iron ore, potatoes, corn, and general provisions.

Cathays Park

lies north of the castle, and was once part of the castle grounds. It covers 60 acres, and is the site of Cardiff's finest public buildings. Here stands the new **Town Hall.** The main frontage extends over 265 feet and contains the principal entrance. Above the Council Chamber is a dome 50 feet in diameter and 96 feet high, surmounted by an immense Welsh Dragon. The west frontage extends for 325 feet, and contains a tower 200 feet high. On the left of the Town Hall is the statue of John Cory, coal owner and philanthropist. A noble avenue (the " King Edward ") on this side of the Town Hall separates that building from the **Law Courts,** an equally imposing pile. To the north are the offices of the **Welsh University.** The park is also to contain the National Museum, the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire, the offices of the Glamorgan County Council, etc. In the small portion of the park retained by the Marquis of Bute are the carefully preserved ruins of the Herbert Mansion of the Grey and Black Friars.

To the north-east of Cathays Park, and about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles from it by tramcar, is

Roath Park,

the largest of Cardiff's public pleasure-grounds. It is, indeed, the largest public park in Wales. The area is 120 acres. The bulk was presented by the late Marquis of Bute. Smaller portions were given by Lord Tredegar and Messrs. Clark and Jackson. All along the course of a brook which runs down the centre are flower-beds and pleasant walks. Beyond these are the **Botanical Gardens,** 15 acres in extent, containing flowers and plants, all labelled. Another pleasant feature is a pretty lake covering 41 acres. Its surface is enlivened by wild-fowl. Boating can be enjoyed upon it at moderate cost, and anglers may try their skill in its water from March 1 to September 30. A fishing ticket for the season is 5*s.*; rod license, 1*s.*

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LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL.

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THE NAVE, LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL.

LLANDAFF.

This ancient city is situated on a green ridge on the right bank of the River Taff, about 2 miles to the north of Cardiff, of which it is now but a suburb. It can be reached by 'bus from the north end of High Street (opposite the Castle), fare 2½*d*. Ely Station, on the Great Western Railway, is three-fourths of a mile to the south-west of the city, while Llandaff Station, on the Taff Vale Railway, is a long mile north-north-west. From Cathedral Road, Cardiff, Llandaff can be reached by a path over Llandaff Fields. This is a very pleasant route, and affords charming views of the city and its cathedral. The cab fare from Cardiff Station is 2*s*. 6*d*.

In 1815 Llandaff was described as "a miserable village of mean cottages," and the description long held good, but many of the humble tenements have been replaced by fine villas, and similar residences occupy spots previously unbuilt upon. The population of the parish is now about 6,000.

The Cathedral.

Principal Dimensions.—Length, including Lady Chapel, 245 feet; width, 70 feet; height, 65 feet; north-west tower, 105 feet high; south-west tower, 195 feet 7 inches.

The Cathedral, of course, forms the principal attraction. It has a most picturesque site. Dyfrig, or Dubricius, is the first Bishop of Llandaff of whom we hear, and he probably founded the first church, as well as a school for priests. He is said to have died in 612. Many miracles and wonders are related in connection with Dyfrig, and his successor St. Teilo. Urban (1107–1134), was the first Bishop appointed under Norman influence, instead of by the Welsh princes, and in 1120 he began the construction of a new cathedral. Of his work, however, little more is left than the massive Norman arch dividing the Presbytery from the Lady Chapel and the fine Norman doorways. The present building is partly of Early English and partly of Decorated architecture. About the middle of the sixteenth century decay overtook the Cathedral and in 1575 it was almost a ruin. Gradually the services were discontinued and the residentiary canons ceased to reside.

In 1732 a kind of Italian church was constructed within the old cathedral. A new west front was erected, crossing the old nave at the eastern side of the fourth bay. Beyond this all the beautiful Gothic work was hidden by new walls and plaster, and reduced, as Mr. Freeman says, to the likeness of a third-rate town hall. A century later more sensible steps were taken. It was resolved to restore the cathedral.

The work was begun with the Lady Chapel, and in 1851 the first choral service since the days of William and Mary was held within the fane. Then the Italian temple was taken down, and the presbytery, choir, and eastern portion of the nave reopened for service in 1857. The repair of the nave followed, and a new south-west tower was begun ; and finally, the nave, west front, and towers were reconstructed as at present seen, being completed and reopened in 1869. In 1880 a fine peal of eight bells was placed in the north-west tower by public subscription, as a memorial to Dean Williams ; the tenor, of 23½ cwt., is the old bell. In 1881 a clock and carillon were added. The cost of the restorations and new buildings exceeded £30,000. The architect was Mr. John Prichard, of Llandaff.

The Exterior.

A striking view of the **West Front** is obtained on approaching the Cathedral by the steep descent from the village-like city. The building is well open to view on the other sides, but from the west only the top of the spire is visible till the brow of the descent is reached. The Cathedral consists of a long unbroken body, including nave, choir, presbytery, and aisles, and an eastern Lady Chapel of smaller height. The west end has two towers terminating the aisles, the south-western topped by a handsome spire. The only appendage of the building is the square chapter-house, projecting from the south aisle of the presbytery. The lack of transepts, central tower, and subsidiary chapels makes this a marked exception to most of the cathedrals of England and Wales.

The central part of the west front has remained comparatively uninjured. It is pure and beautiful Early English. In the spandril of the doorway is a sculptured figure, probably representing one of the founders. The second stage has three fine lancet windows. The gable has a large central window with a trefoil arch containing a figure of Christ in Majesty.

The **North-Western Tower** is said to have been built by Jasper Tudor, Duke of Bedford, who received from Henry VII. the lordship of Glamorgan. It is a Perpendicular structure resting on the arches of its Early English predecessor and crowned with an open-worked parapet that had to be renewed in the great restoration. The **South-Western Tower** is new, and was designed by Mr. Prichard to replace an Early English tower of which scarcely anything remained. Under canopies, in which massive buttresses terminate, are statues of St. Peter and St. Paul, to whom Bishop Urban dedicated the Cathedral, and a statue of Bishop Ollivant, in whose time the work was completed. Above the aisle roof is an arcade of four arches, including seated figures of the Evangelists.

The lancet windows of the belfry stage are flanked by niches containing figures representing the various nations of the world. Above the arches of the windows project heads of the great mission apostles and preachers.

The Interior.

As seen from the west end, the graceful arcades, the east window, the remarkable Norman arch above the communion table, and the stone roof and east window of the Lady Chapel combine in a dignified and beautiful view. Between the nave and the choir there is no partition except a low wooden screen, the difference being marked by low walls extending between the choir arches and by slight differences in the piers. Otherwise the nave and choir proper are similar. They are in the Early English style. The capitals of the main arches are beautifully sculptured. There is no triforium, the clerestory immediately surmounting the string-course and having a passage cut through it. The clerestory was rebuilt from the model of the single bay (on the south side) which remained. At the west end of the nave, the three great lancets with their mouldings occupy the entire width. A group of shafts from the windows is brought to the ground on either side of the portal, which descends several steps to the floor, thus greatly enhancing the general effect of the west end. The stalls in the choir occupy two bays. They were designed by Mr. Prichard and executed by Llandaff workmen. Like the Bishop's throne and the base of the screen, they are inlaid with coloured woods. Between the sub-stalls are small figures of the Apostles. The **Bishop's Throne** has an enriched canopy, including figures of Latin Doctors and Anglican Reformers. The eastern panel depicts St. Paul preaching at Athens, the western one Christ's command to St. Peter, "Feed My Sheep." On the front of the desk is a panel representing the Dispersal of the Apostles. The pulpit is of Caen stone, with shafts of coloured marbles. The panels contain figures of Moses with the Law, David, John the Baptist, and St. Paul. The font (the gift of Dean Williams, d. 1877) is adorned with scenes from the life of Noah. The aisles, rebuilt in the Decorated period, need only be mentioned for their windows with ogeeheads and reticulated tracery. The roofs, as well as those of the nave and choir, are modern open ones, although flat roofs were evidently intended by the original builders.

The choir is divided from the Presbytery by a modern arch. The **Presbytery** was rebuilt in the Decorated period, but the Norman arch at the east end, the Norman south wall, and parts of Norman windows were retained. The Norman arch at the east end is shorn of its proper dimensions,

for the shafts extend several feet deeper. It has four orders, characteristically ornamented. The exterior one has a series of small circles, each studded with points and having eight leaves within. This is almost unique. The old reredos, dating from the end of the fourteenth century, was plastered over in the Italian temple. It was so damaged that it was not thought advisable to restore it, and it was removed to the north choir aisle. The new reredos is of Caen stone, with shafts of polished marble. It has three arches, with beautiful pictures by Dante Gabriel Rossetti. The central one represents the Nativity, that on the north side David as a shepherd, that on the south side David as king. The ideas of the side pictures are connected with the central thus : An angel has just entered the stable where Christ is newly born, and leads by the hand a king and a shepherd, who bow themselves before the manger on which the Virgin Mother kneels, holding the infant Saviour.

The presbytery aisles open into the **Lady Chapel** by Early English arches, but the chapel is very Early Decorated. The east window, designed by Mr. Prichard, is of five lights. The **Chapter-House,** of Early English date, is peculiar in being square, with a central round pillar.

All the stained glass in the cathedral is modern.

In the north nave aisle is the altar tomb of Sir W. Mathew and his wife (d. 1528 and 1530) and the effigy of an unknown bishop. In the south nave aisle is the recumbent figure of an unknown bishop. In the north aisle of the presbytery and choir are the effigy of St. Dubritius, or Dyfrig, the tomb of Bishop Bromfield (d. 1393), a woman's figure in a winding sheet (fifteenth century), and the altar-tomb of Sir D. Mathew, standard-bearer to Edward IV. at Towton (d. 1461). On the south side of the presbytery is the tomb assigned to St. Teilo. On the north side of the presbytery is the tomb of Bishop Marshall (d. 1496), erected by himself in his lifetime ; his figure is fully vested and carries a mitre and staff. In the Lady Chapel is the altar-tomb of Sir Christopher and Lady Mathew (1500–1526). The effigy of Bishop William de Bruce (d. 1287), the reputed builder of this chapel, is also here, and by its side is a brass showing the burial-place of Bishop Copleston (d. 1849).

The diocese of Llandaff extends over all Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire east of the river Neath.

The bishops, other than those already named, include the following:—Anthony Kitchin (1545–1563), the only bishop who took oath concerning the Royal supremacy on Queen Elizabeth's accession, and consequently retained his see. He is responsible for a great impoverishment of it. William Morgan

(1595–1601), the first translator of the Bible into Welsh. Francis Godwin (1601–1617), the well-known author of the *Lives of the English Bishops*. Richard Watson (1782–1816), at one time Professor of Chemistry and afterwards Regius Professor of Divinity in Cambridge University. During his episcopate he lived chiefly at Windermere, and became known as an agriculturist and planter, as well as by controversial works, including an *Apology for Christianity*, an answer to Gibbon, and an *Apology for the Bible*.

A very ancient **Cross** now stands in the Palace grounds; and on the City Green is a cross with an ancient base, which was restored as a commemoration of the late Queen's Jubilee. There is the remnant of an ancient Episcopal Castle, built in the fourteenth century and burnt by Owen Glyndwr. It now forms the garden entrance to the Bishop's Palace.

On the site of what is known as "Prichard's House," the **Theological College of St. Michael and All Angels** has been erected at a cost of £20,000. It is opposite the **Probate Registry,** a modern and striking building, the work of the late Mr. John Prichard, who restored the Cathedral.

Llandaff is also the site of **Howell's Glamorgan School for Girls,** which has an interesting history. In 1540 a certain Howell, living in Seville, Spain, but supposed to have been a native of Usk, in Monmouthshire, bequeathed to the Drapers' Company 12,000 ducats, "to buy therewith 400 ducats of rent yearly for evermore." The will required "that the said 400 dukats be desposed unto four maydens, being orphanes, to theire marriage." In 1543 the Drapers' Company received 8,720 ducats; the rest never arrived. In 1559 the Court of Chancery ordered that the four maidens should each receive £21 a year. In 1838, the Attorney-General having filed an information against the Company, the reply was made that the sum of £84 was paid annually to the four maidens, but that the rest of the yearly income, then some £1,900, was carried to the Company's account. The whole of the fund having been adjudged applicable to the charitable purposes of the will, Parliament was asked to regulate the charity. Acts were passed in 1846 and 1852, the latter directing that the money should be used for establishing and supporting two schools for female orphans in Wales, one school to be at Llandaff, the other at Denbigh. The charity is now administered by the Glamorgan County Council. The money formerly used for "female orphans" is given in scholarships.

PENARTH.

Situation.—South of Cardiff, from which it is 4 miles by rail or road, 1 mile by Ferry Steamer from Cardiff Docks.
Approach.—By rail as for Cardiff, from both stations in the City; by 'bus from St. Mary Street, Cardiff.
Golf.—Glamorganshire Golf Club Links at Lower Penarth.
Hotels.—*See* Introduction.
Population.—15,000.
Post Office.—Windsor Road.
Recreation.—Boating, bathing, golf, tennis, free library, steamboat excursions, concerts, and band performances.
Water Supply.—A plentiful supply of soft, excellent water.

Penarth, a fashionable suburb of Cardiff, is situated on a bold headland. Its site is in striking contrast to that of the neighbouring city, for while Cardiff stands on flat ground, Penarth has no dead levels. In the middle of last century the site of the town was farm land, with a population of less than 100. Then a dock was made, and the population rapidly increased. At first it was of the kind commonly described as "industrial." The earliest buildings were consequently small, and little attention was paid to the planning of the streets. Then Cardiff merchants began to be attracted to the spot by its salubrity and its fine outlook. This entirely changed the character of the town, so that the residences are now mainly picturesque villas, and the thoroughfares are broad.

Being on a headland, Penarth has the advantage of having two shores—the north and the south. Along the former runs a concreted **Esplanade,** 36 feet wide, provided with seats and shelters. Here are fine sea-water **Baths,** the property of the Urban District Council, and the handsome premises of the local **Yacht Club,** containing billiard, reading, refreshment, and other rooms. On the **Pier,** 630 feet long and 24 feet wide, bands and concert parties give entertainments during the season. Each day during the season pleasure steamers call at the pier for excursionists to the numerous places of interest in the Channel.

Running for about half a mile along the cliff are the pretty **Windsor Gardens.** (Admission one penny; season tickets can be obtained.) The **Alexandra Park** is open to all comers for resting or promenading. It has a bandstand and shelters, and is a grand view-point, as is also **Head View. Plassey Square** is a recreation ground for children. The Lawn Tennis Club ground contains several courts, spacious offices, and reading-rooms. Visitors can become temporary members.

All the places of worship are modern. The **Church of**

St. Augustine, which had stood for perhaps 500 years, having fallen into decay, was rebuilt in 1886 by a late Lady Windsor. In the churchyard is a fine memorial cross. The upper part is very ancient. Upon it are much defaced representations of the Virgin and Child, a crucifix, a bishop, and St. Michael weighing souls.

From the high ground an almost bird's-eye view is obtained of the **Dock,** which has been cut out of the hillside, as it were. A large trade is done in coal, iron ore, and general merchandise. Parallel with the Dock is the River *Ely*, in which small ships lie to discharge and receive cargo. Communication between the two sides of the harbour is maintained by a subway, which in the year 1900 took the place of a steam chain ferry.

Lord Windsor occupies a position with respect to Penarth similar to that in which the Marquis of Bute stands to Cardiff.

Penarth is the centre of several delightful

Walks.

To Lavernock, 2½ miles to the south, by way of the cliff. Lavernock is the site of a very small and ancient church.

To Sully, about a mile and a half to the west of Lavernock, the site of an ancient church and a fragment of a castle.

To Cwrt-y-Rala, in the course of a circular walk of about 6 miles *viâ* Michaelston and Dinas Powis. Much of the route is over fields and through woods.

To Dinas Powis, about 3 miles, mainly by field paths. On the Common is the *Mount*, the residence of Major-General Lee, the lord of the manor. Half a mile farther is the hamlet of **St. Andrews.** Just short of it is a rocky height on the right, called from the arrangement of the rocks the **Bishop's Seat.** It commands a fine view.

To Llandough and the Upper Reservoir, or the walk may be continued through Leckwith to Cardiff. The best view obtainable of Cardiff is from a point just beyond Leckwith.

BARRY.

Situation.—On the north coast of the Bristol Channel, 8 miles from Cardiff. It has the sea on the south, east, and west. Winds from the west blow over the Atlantic; from the east over 20 to 30 miles of the Bristol Channel, and from the south over 13 or 14 miles of the Channel.

Bathing.—Good and safe at all states of the tide. Places are provided by the town free of charge or on payment of a small sum.

Boating.—In Whitmore Bay and Barry Harbour. Visitors can become temporary members of the *Barry Rowing Club*.

Golf.—An 18-hole course on sandbanks adjoining the sea at Aberthaw, about 7 miles. Nearest station at Gileston on the Vale of Glamorgan Railway.

Hotels.—Mainly opposite Barry Dock Station and Barry station. *See* Introduction.

Library.—Free Library and Reading Room open to visitors.

Population.—About 30,000.
Railways.—The *Barry Railway*, forming a connection with Cardiff through Cogan and Dinas Powis. The *Taff Vale Railway*, connecting with Cardiff *viâ* Sully and Penarth. A branch of the Barry Railway connecting with Pontypridd, the centre of the mining district. The *Vale of Glamorgan Railway* joining the Great Western at Bridgend. The *Great Western Railway* has a direct service of trains between Barry Dock and Newcastle-on-Tyne, *viâ* Banbury.
Railway Stations.—There are five, *viz. Cadoxton* (or East Barry); *Barry Dock* (or Central Barry); *Barry* (for West Barry); *Barry Island* and *Barry Pier*. The last is for steamboat passengers.
Steamer Excursions.—Numerous trips are made across the Channel and along its shores. *See* under Cardiff.
Tennis.—Club ground in Park Road.

Barry resembles Penarth in being a place of quite modern growth. Thirty years ago it was an insignificant hamlet. It is now a large and thriving seaport, and is becoming popular as a pleasure resort. About 1880 the docks at Cardiff were found inadequate for the trade of the port. Those interested in securing increased accommodation, being unable to come to terms with the Marquis of Bute, determined to construct a dock at Barry. Great opposition was offered by neighbouring ports, but finally the necessary authority of Parliament was obtained. The dock was opened in 1889, after a sum of more than two million pounds had been spent upon it. It covered 73 acres, and was the largest in the world, but almost immediately a second dock was needed. This was opened in 1898.

The site of the town slopes from the docks to a point about 300 feet above sea-level. Care has been taken to prevent, if possible, the creation of slums, and to guard in every way the health of the inhabitants. There are wide, well-made streets, many of which contain rows of trees. Several open spaces have been secured. There is an abundant supply of good water, which is periodically analysed. And the local governing body prides itself on having been the first in Wales to erect a "dust destructor," the first in the United Kingdom to regulate seamen's boarding houses, and the first to provide and maintain out of the rates a Town Accident Hospital.

A very important part of the place is **Barry Island,** an island, however, only in name, for it is connected with the mainland by a massive causeway. Here we see the watering-place aspect of Barry, produced by an esplanade, a stretch of clean sand along Whitmore Bay, a bathing pool for ladies and children, and other public bathing-places. On Nell's Point is a modern fort for the protection of the port.

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PENARTH.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,] [*Reigate.*

BARRY.

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CAERPHILLY CASTLE.

Through Leland's eyes we can look at the island as it was some three and a half centuries ago. He says, it "is about a mile in compass and hath very good corn, grass, and some wood. The farm of it is worth £40 a year. There is no dwelling in the isle, but there is in the middle of it a fair little chapel of St. Barrock, where much pilgrimage was used." There are now only a few stones of the supposed shrine of St. Barrock, or Baruc, from whom the island takes its name, which in turn is said to have become the cognomen of the family known as de Barri, and including among its members Gerald de Barri—Giraldus Cambrensis.

CAERPHILLY CASTLE.

Admission any weekday, fee 3*d*.

Caerphilly Castle is an extensive ruin north of Cardiff, from which it is some 7 miles by road or rail. The adjacent town has a station on the Rhymney Railway.

Of the history of the Castle singularly little is known, although it must have been one of the largest and strongest fortresses in the country. The building of which we now see the remains was probably erected towards the end of the reign of Henry III., that is about 1260, and was much enlarged and strengthened early in the next century by the younger Hugh de Spenser, the unworthy favourite of Edward II. That weak sovereign took refuge in it for a few days when he was pursued by Queen Isabella and the barons, and when his enemies arrived it withstood a most determined siege. From the De Spensers it passed in succession or marriage to the Beauchamps and Nevilles. Having lapsed to the Crown, it was given by Edward VI. to William, Earl of Pembroke, and from his family it passed by marriage to ancestors of the Marquis of Bute, who now holds it, and by whom the remains are carefully preserved. In the year 1400 the Castle was held by Owen Glyndwr and was described at that time as "gigantic Caerphilly, a fortress great in ruins." No one can say with certainty when or by whom it was wrecked. Adherents of Charles I. are supposed to have overthrown portions with gunpowder that it might not be of service to the forces of the Parliament.

The ruins cover no less than 30 acres, so that they look more like the remains of a deserted town than of a single fortress. The best general view is obtained from a spot called the *Twyn* (too-in). From that point the buildings are seen to fall into two main divisions. There is a central block

forming the castle proper, and there are the outer works. The site of the castle proper was enclosed by four strong walls with a tower at each angle and a gatehouse in the centre of each end of the rectangle. In these gatehouses were porters' lodges, state and other bedrooms, guard-rooms and prisons, and each had an oratory. On the south side of the enclosure were the cellar, the great hall, 73 feet by 35 feet, the chapel and drawing-rooms, and other apartments for the lord and lady of the castle. The hall, after being roofless for centuries, was covered in during the year 1871. In the curtain wall on the south side of the enclosure, and in those at the two ends was a gallery giving communication between the gatehouses and the angle towers and the portion occupied by the lord. The gatehouses and angle towers had portcullised doorways, and each could be held independently of the others. Around this block of buildings was a moat.

The outer defences included another moat, and walls with towers and gatehouses. In a strong low tower on the south side was the kitchen, with a kind of scullery attached, containing a large oven and a tank which was probably a fish stew. The kitchen communicated with the lower end of the great hall. Also opening into the hall and upon the water surrounding the castle was a vaulted passage, now blocked up, capable of containing two or three boats.

The ground north and south of the castle could be flooded by the neighbouring brook, the *Nant Gledyr*, which also supplied the moats with water. On the western side of the brook is an outwork for the defence of the dam by which the stream was turned into the moats and could be made to overflow the low ground. When the latter took place two lakes were formed. The southern lake was the larger of the two sheets of water. It was about 400 yards long by 80 broad, with a depth which reached to 10 or 12 feet.

The principal front of the fortress faced the east. It was 300 yards in length. The great gatehouse in its centre was 50 feet broad, 40 feet deep, and very lofty.

The most singular feature of the castle now is its leaning tower, a massive piece of masonry 50 feet high and 11 feet out of the perpendicular. It will be remembered that the castle is described by Tennyson in his *Idylls of the King*.

Besides the stupendous ruins of its fortress, the town of **Caerphilly** has little to interest the visitor. Once upon a time it was famous for its cheese. There was a time, too, when it was so much better known than Cardiff that the site of the latter was described as "near Caerphilly." Of late the population of the old town has largely increased, and now numbers some 8,000. The growth of the place

is mainly due to the collieries in the district and to railway works, but it is also finding favour as a residential town.

Castell Coch,

the "Red Castle," so called from the colour of its stone, is another ancient fortress within easy reach of Cardiff, from which it is some 6 miles to the north-west, near Walnut Tree Station on the Taff Vale Railway. It is picturesquely situated on a wooded height in the midst of a region that still has much natural beauty, in spite of collieries and iron-works. The Castle is a triangular structure originally built about 1250. Tradition connects it with Ivor Bach, the Welsh chieftain whose raid on Cardiff Castle has been recorded on p. 52. After having been long a ruin, Castell Coch was carefully restored by the Marquis of Bute, and converted into a residence again. In the grounds is a vineyard which is cultivated for the production of wine.

Walnut Tree Station is also the point at which to alight for **Taff's Well,** a spring of tepid mineral water highly esteemed in the locality for its efficacy in cases of rheumatism.

Pontypridd

(*ponty-preeth*), 6 miles by rail beyond Castell Coch, is famed for that which has given the place its name, its "**Bridge of Beauty,**" a most picturesque single-arched structure, which cannot be better described than in the words of Mr. Roscoe, who says, "It is a perfect segment of a circle which stretches its magnificent chord of 140 feet across the bed of the Taff, rising like a rainbow from the steep bank on the eastern side of the river, and gracefully resting on the western—the *beau ideal* of architectural elegance."

An inscription in the centre of the bridge gives the date of the completion of the work as 1756. It was designed and built by a native self-taught stone-mason named Edwards, who is also responsible for some of the most picturesque of the bridges over the Usk and the Towy, but none equals that at Pontypridd.

Pontypridd stands at the confluence of the *Rhondda* with the *Taff.* The latter comes down from **Merthyr Tydfil,** the Welsh metropolis of the iron and steel trades. The Rhondda has a more westerly course and between the two is another feeder, the *Cynon,* which flows past **Aberdare,** converted by the development of the coal and iron industries from an insignificant village to a large and thriving town.

BRIDGEND, SOUTHERNDOWN AND PORTHCAWL.

THE three places named above are in the south of Glamorganshire, nearer to Swansea than to Cardiff, and but a short distance from one another. The first is inland, the other two are on the coast.

BRIDGEND.

Hotels, etc.—*See* Introduction.

Bridgend has the distinction of being on the main line of the Great Western Railway. It is a town of some 7,000 inhabitants. The River *Ogmore* flows through it, dividing it into two parts, known respectively as **Oldcastle** and Newcastle. The former is on the east side of the river. In it are the railway station and most of the places of business, but there are no traces of the "Old" Castle, of which even the site is unknown. **Newcastle,** on the west side of the river, is mainly residential, and is pleasantly situated on a wooded hillside. It takes its name from a Norman Castle, of which a gateway and a bit of a wall remain. There is good scenery along the Ogmore. Some good fishing is to be had in that stream as well as in its tributary, the Ewenny. and splendid golf links are within easy walking distance, (*See* Porthcawl and Southerndown.) But Bridgend's claim to be included in a book written mainly for the guidance of tourists rests solely on the fact that it is the centre of many points of interest.

To Coity Castle and Church, Coychurch and Ewenny Abbey.

These can all be included in a circular walk of 7½ miles from Bridgend and back again. Only at Coychurch is the pedestrian as much as 2½ miles from the town. Coity Castle and Ewenny Abbey are only 2¼ miles from it by road.

Taking the railway station as the starting-point for Coity, go to the down side, there turn to the right, pass under the railway, and then go straight ahead past the Council school,

following the path under railway arch to crossroads near the castle and there turn to the right through the village to the *Six Bells Inn*, where inquiries should be made for the keys of both castle and church.

Coity Castle is a picturesque ruin, consisting of a large outer ward and a circular inner ward. In passing from the former to the latter, the keep is on the left. It was probably built in the latter part of the fourteenth century, and when entire was of four storeys. The great Gatehouse on the east belongs to the same period, but the present windows were inserted at a later date. On the south-west of the inner ward was the Hall. Against its site is the old round tower of the castle. The curtain wall on this side of the stronghold dates from the opening years of the thirteenth century. It is the oldest part of the remains.

There is said to have been a fortress here before the Normans came, and it is said to have been won by a Norman knight not by the sword but by love. Instead of besieging the castle he wooed the daughter of the Cymric owner and won both the lady and the fortress.

Coity Church is a cruciform building in the Decorated style. It has no aisles. The interior is of very attractive appearance and presents several features of interest. In the nave are two piscinas and two large squints. There are also a piscina and a squint in each of the transepts. The north transept, in addition, has the rood loft stair and two diminutive figures. A piscina will be seen in the chancel, which also contains a double-seated sedile. On an ancient oak chest is carved a representation of the Passion. In the churchyard the gargoyles of the tower should be noticed and also a yew-tree that is growing out of the base of a cross.

Coychurch is less than 2 miles to the south-east of Coity Church. From the graveyard of the latter turn to the right, and immediately afterwards go downhill on the left, and then keep straight on until you have passed under the railway, about a mile ahead, when you turn to the left. The **Church** is the only object of interest in the village. It is a cruciform structure with nave aisles. The style is transitional between Early English and Decorated, but much of the work is new, for in 1874 the central tower fell with disastrous effect upon the transepts and chancel. The west front is worthy of special notice, and in the interior are two quaint effigies of the fourteenth century.

Ewenny Abbey is 2½ miles to the south-west of Coychurch, from which the route is as follows. Return to the fork near the entrance to Coychurch, and there turn to the left and almost immediately to the right. Rather more than a mile farther, the Bridgend and Cowbridge high-road will be crossed. Then,

just before reaching the second cottage, take a footpath on the left and follow it across the marsh to a road on the far side of the River Ewenny and there turn to the right.

The Abbey was founded in the middle of the twelfth century by William de Londres and his son Maurice for a community of Benedictine monks from Gloucester. In spite of past neglect and the ravages of time, many of its original features are uninjured, it is still an ecclesiastical building of more than ordinary interest, and it may remain so for many years, as it is now well cared for. The portions that have been preserved comprise the main gateway, much of the exterior wall, and the **Church.** The last-named is considered to contain the finest pure Norman work in Wales. Its principal external feature is a massive fortified tower, to the east of which there was formerly a chapel. (Enquiries for the key of the church should be made just within the gateway.)

"So far as it exists at all," says Dr. Freeman, "it exists very nearly as it was originally built, and it consequently shows us what a religious edifice, raised by invaders in the midst of a half-conquered country, was required to be. When perfect it consisted of a nave with north aisle, choir under the tower, transept, presbytery without aisles, but with an arrangement of chapels attached to the transepts. The western limb formed the parish church; the choir, the presbytery, and the appendages formed the church of the Priory. The division was made by a solid wall across the western arch of the lantern, acting, of course, at once as the reredos of the parish church and the rood screen of the Priory. . . . The parish church could not be concealed within the monastic enclosure: the parishioners must have free access without passing through the gateway of the monastery, consequently, the whole north side was exposed, while the monastic buildings were attached to the south. The result is that the church itself becomes part of the line of defence, and hence the extent to which it assumes a castellated character."

In the Priory Chapel will be found the tomb of the joint founder, Maurice de Londres. Other objects of special interest are the hagioscope on the north side, a double piscina (a very rare feature), the font, and the fine arcading in the south transept.

From Ewenny to Bridgend the shortest route is across the marsh by the footpath used in getting to the Abbey, then across the road and along the lane opposite the stile, as far as a ladder in the left-hand hedge, and then along a footpath from the ladder to the road from Ewenny Bridge.

From Bridgend to Ewenny Abbey. An alternative route to the above reversed, but available only in dry weather. Follow the high-road to the stream, and there turn to the left. The by-road leads past the ruins.

Another route is as follows:—Go down Station Hill, on the left, and up Nolton Street, which leads to Ewenny Road and Ewenny. Then take the road alongside the stream until you reach the Abbey.

Ogmore Castle.

This is a Norman fortress of which the ruined keep and some of the outer walls stand near the junction of the Ewenny and Ogmore rivers, about 2 miles below Ewenny Abbey. It was built by the De Londres. To reach the site from Bridgend, follow the high-road over Ewenny Bridge and then bear to the right.

Margam Abbey

is situated some 10 miles to the north-west of Bridgend. Travellers going westward by rail may see it on the right soon after passing Pyle. It was founded by Robert, Earl of Gloucester, in 1147. The principal remnant is the west end of the church. In the Parish Church are memorials of the Mansel family. The modern mansion is the seat of the Talbots. It stands in a park, about 5 miles in circumference, on the lower slopes of Mynydd Margam. For admission to the house, in the absence of the family, application should be made to the Estate Office. The grounds are specially famed for a conservatory containing a fine collection of orange and lemon trees, which tradition avers were brought to England for the reigning sovereign (tradition differs as to which), but failed to reach their destination through the ship being wrecked on the neighbouring coast.

Llantwit Major (p. 76) is easily accessible from Bridgend and Cardiff, as it has a station on the Bridgend-Barry Railway. Two miles to the west of Llantwit Major is **St. Donat's** (p. 76). **Porthcawl** (p. 77) is 7 miles by road from Bridgend and 10 miles by rail *viâ* Pyle.

SOUTHERNDOWN.

(For **Hotels,** *see* Introduction.)

Southerndown is situated at the foot of the limestone downs, about 5 miles southward from Bridgend. It is a quiet, healthy watering-place, beloved by those who desire a large breathing-space while holiday-making, and offering to golfers a fine course of 18 holes (*see* p. 172). The nearest station is *Southerndown Road*, 2½ miles distant. The coastline is magnificently rugged, and in places is over 300 feet high. The cliffs are of great interest to geologists and contain caves of considerable size.

About a mile to the south-east is **Dunraven Castle,** a modern castellated mansion, the seat of the Earl of Dunraven. It stands on a rocky promontory called The Witch's Nose, formerly the site of an ancient stronghold known as Castell Dundrivan, of which there is now no trace. On certain days the grounds are open to the public.

Some 5 miles farther along the coast (9 miles from Bridgend) is **St. Donat's Castle,** in a romantic situation overlooking the Channel. It is sheltered and almost concealed by woods. The castle is not now open to all comers, through abuse of the privilege, but a card left at the lodge when the proprietor is at home generally procures admission. In its oldest parts the castle is Early Norman, but as a whole it is a baronial hall of the sixteenth century. It has been described as "unquestionably one of the most perfect of the ancient baronial halls of Wales." Some of the carving in the State rooms is by Grinling Gibbons, and one of the rooms has a handsome copper ceiling. Through the changes of all the centuries, the castle has never been uninhabited. Tradition assigns its foundation to Guillaume le Esterling, the reputed ancestor of the Stradling family, who, until lately, were supposed to have held the estate for six centuries, but from records that have been discovered it is now known that one Howey held the fee in 1262, thus considerably reducing the period of the Stradlings' tenure. The last of the Stradlings died in 1738. After the battle of Naseby Archbishop Usher went to St. Donat's on the invitation of the Dowager Lady Stradling, and remained in hiding there for nearly a year, in a chamber which is still preserved.

On the slopes facing the sea are hanging gardens in which myrtles and sub-tropical plants testify to the mildness of the winter.

The Parish Church contains several interesting memorials of the Stradlings. In the churchyard is a good cross, much weather worn.

Occupying a commanding situation on the western brow of the combe is a watch-tower, said to have been used for wrecking purposes. A little farther are **Nash Point** and its lighthouses. The latter are to warn vessels off the dangerous Nash Sands, which extend for some 4 or 5 miles from the point.

Rather more than 2 miles east of St. Donat's is **Llantwit Major,** once a famous ecclesiastical centre, for which it is

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DUNRAVEN BAY, SOUTHERNDOWN.

sometimes called "the Iona of Wales." In connection with its monastery was a school of divinity, established by St. Illtydd, from whom the monastery took the name of Llanilltyd-fawr. It had previously been known as Cor (or Bangor) Caerworgorn. "When the Romans were pagans, and our Saxon ancestors ran wild in their native woods of Saxony," says a writer, "the school at Llantwit attracted pupils from all parts of the country and the Continent, and brought up scholars and teachers who still further extended its fame." The church consists of two parts, known respectively as the **New Church** and the **Old Church,** but the former is really the older of the two. Originally it was the monastic church. Upon the dissolution of the monastery it became the parish church, and is so still. Probably, when the parishioners began to use it instead of the other portion which had previously been theirs, they gave to the two parts their distinctive names. The New Church is Early English and extremely plain. The reredos was formerly the rood screen. At the east end of the south aisle is a fine niche with a cherub-tree below it. The latter was originally outside the west end. The font is said to be more than a thousand years old. It is perfectly plain.

The Old Church contains various relics collected from outside and inside the two churches. On one of the tombs is a twelfth-century effigy of an ecclesiastic wearing a cope.

In the village is a *Town Hall,* with a picturesque Perpendicular front.

PORTHCAWL.

Hotels and tariffs.—*See* Introduction.
Population.—2,000.

Porthcawl, to the westward of the River Ogmore, is 7 miles by road from Bridgend, 10 by rail *viâ* Pyle, or 12½ *viâ* Tondu Junction. It is easily reached by means of the Rhondda and Swansea Bay and Great Western Railways *viâ* Cymmer, and by the Great Western Railway *viâ* Ely Valley and Llantrisant, from the thickly populated Rhondda valleys.

The road route from Bridgend runs through Laleston, on the Neath Road, and about a mile beyond it goes to the left by a lane that leads through Tythegston and Newton Nottage.

From a port of small importance, Porthcawl has developed into a watering-place that is most deservedly rapidly rising

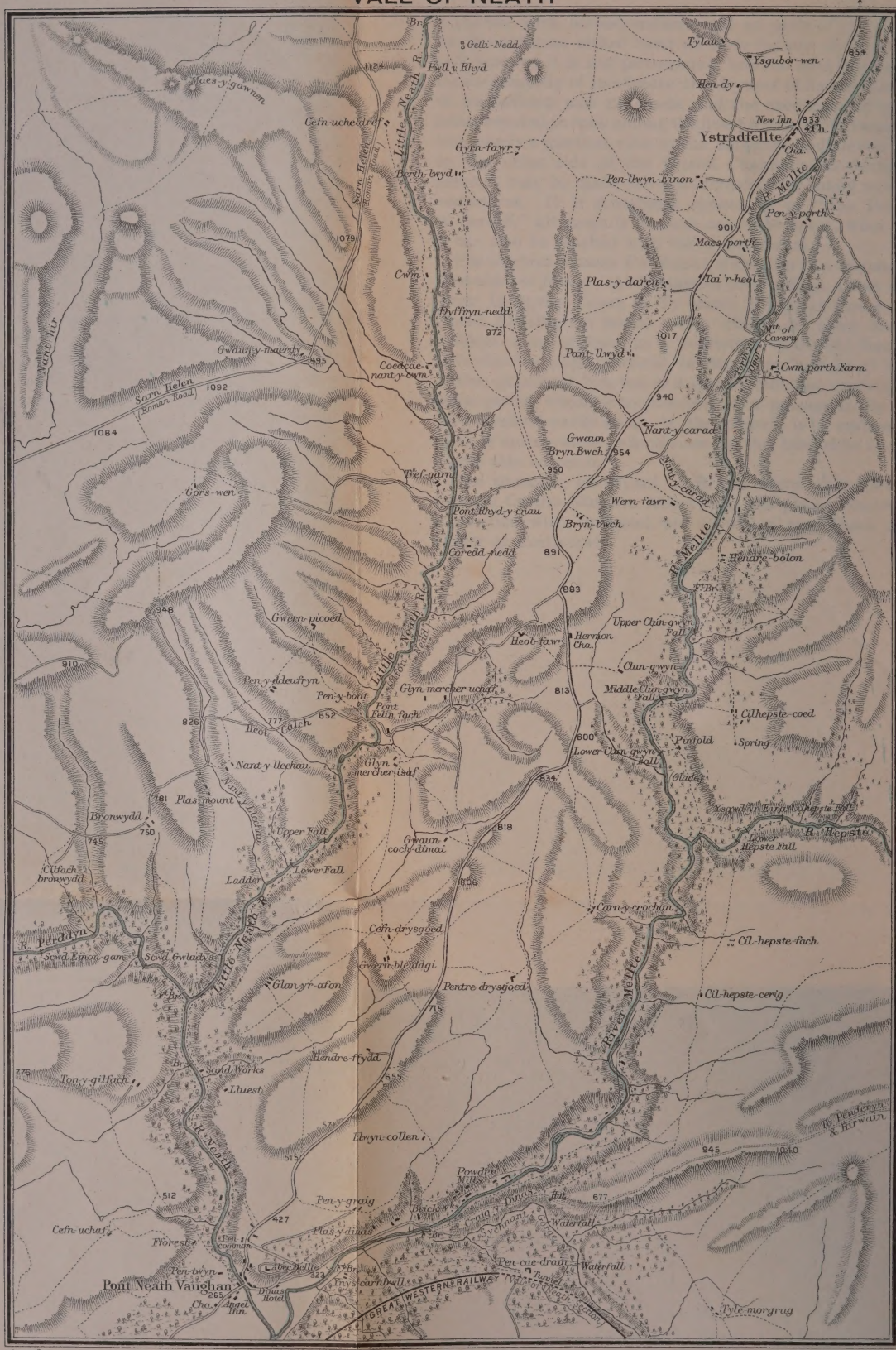
in favour with holiday-makers from all parts of the country. As the coast on either hand consists mainly of sand-dunes and burrows it is not picturesque, but the spot is renowned for the salubrity of its climate, the dryness of its air, the safety of its bathing and its sands, and the excellence of its golf links, reputed to rank among the finest south of the Tweed. It commands a glorious view of the Somerset and Devon coast, on the other side of the Bristol Channel, and during the summer may be made the starting-point for many agreeable excursions. It is sometimes spoken of as "the Brighton of Cardiff," although it is much nearer Swansea, from which it can also be reached with the greatest ease.

For obvious reasons Porthcawl is the site of a commodious *Convalescent Home.* At **Nottage,** a little village about a mile away, is *Nottage Court,* or Ty Mawr, the Great House, a restored Elizabethan house which claims to have had the luckless Anne Boleyn as a resident. It is fully described, as is also the neighbourhood, in Blackmore's *Maid of Sker.*

The church at Newton is a quaint building containing a stone pulpit, which is approached by a passage in the wall. Two hundred yards south of the church is a curious well of clear spring-water, which rises as the tide ebbs and falls as the tide comes in.

The romantic graveyard of Briton Ferry, Dunraven and Ogmore Castles, Margam Abbey, and the places described in connection with Bridgend, are all within easy reach of the visitor at Porthcawl.

VALE OF NEATH



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THE VALE OF NEATH.

AT the mouth of the vale stands the town of

Neath,

having a population of 14,000, and taking rank as the most important place on the Great Western line between Cardiff and Swansea. It is most delightfully situated, but unfortunately the natural beauty of the site, like so much of Glamorganshire, is marred by collieries and works, and therefore the town has not much attraction for the tourist. Its hotels, however, offer a good base for the exploration of the Vale through which its river flows, and there are a few local objects of interest. The chief of these are the ruins of

Neath Abbey,

about a mile to the west of the town. They can be reached by following the Swansea Road (a tram route), by walking along the towing-path of the canal, or by train from the Low Level Station, about half a mile from the Town Station of the Great Western Railway. The Abbey was founded for Grey Friars in 1111, by Richard de Granville of Bideford, who is said to have been incited to its erection by a dream and an accusing conscience. At its dissolution the Abbey was granted to Sir Richard Cromwell, nephew of Thomas Cromwell, the trusted minister of Henry VIII. John Leland, who saw it shortly before its monastic inmates were expelled, described it as the "fairest Abbey in all Wales," and a writer of the period waxed eloquent in its praise.

"Like the sky of the Vale of Ebron (says he) is the covering of this monastery; weighty is the lead that roofs this abode—the dark-blue canopy of the dwellings of the godly. Every colour is seen in the crystal windows; every fair and high-wrought form beams forth through them like the rays of the sun-portals of radiant guardians! . . . Here are seen the graceful robes of prelates—gold and jewels, the tribute of the wealthy—the gold-adorned chair, the nave, the gilded-tabernacle work, the pinnacles on the

glass, imperial arms; a ceiling resplendent with kingly bearings, and on the surrounding borders the shields of princes, the arms of Neath of a hundred ages; the arms of the best men under the crown of Harry. The vast and lofty roof is like the sparkling heavens on high; above are seen archangel forms; the floor beneath is for the people of the earth, all the tribe of Babel—for them it is wrought of variegated stone. The bells, the benedictions, and the peaceful songs of praise, proclaim the peaceful thanksgivings of the white monks."

Little of what that writer saw remains. The ground plan of the church can be traced, and there are considerable portions of the two towers which formed part of the west front. To the south of the church are the domestic buildings, in which great alterations were made by Sir P. Hoby in the middle of the seventeenth century to convert them into a more convenient mansion. The most interesting portion is a crypt or refectory, with an alcove on its eastern side. In the latter are windows of a later date than the building. On the south-west is a fragment of a building with fine lancet windows. Edward II. took refuge at Neath on his escape from Caerphilly, and then was betrayed at Llantrisant, 11 miles from Cardiff, by a monk of Neath Abbey whom he had trusted.

For the antiquary, Neath has another object of interest in the remains of the **Castle,** on the west side of the town, at the east end of Castle Street. The castle is said to have been founded by that Richard de Granville to whom the church owed the neighbouring abbey. The chief feature is the main gateway, which is flanked by towers and probably dates from about 1300. The best view of it is obtained from a lane leading off Castle Street. About the middle of last century a part of the ruin was used as a Meeting House of the Society of Friends, while another portion served as a Wesleyan Chapel. The Corporation of Neath have converted a portion of the site into a recreation ground, to which the public are admitted on certain days in the summer.

Other buildings in Neath that may attract the attention of the visitor are **Gwyn Hall** and **St. David's Church,** standing on opposite sides of the same street. The former contains a spacious Council Chamber and a hall for concerts, etc. It was erected by the Corporation on a site presented by Mr. Howell Gwyn, whose statue adorns the front of the building. St. David's Church is a large, modern, handsome edifice with a lofty tower. In the immediate vicinity of the town

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PORTHCAWL.

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ST. DONAT'S CASTLE.

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are the **Gnoll Woods,** through which a pleasant walk can be taken to a picturesque structure called the Ivy Tower.

Some 4 miles south of Neath, and reached before that centre by westward-bound passengers on the Great Western main line, is **Briton Ferry,** an industrial town in a spot once celebrated for its scenery. In those days the poets Gray and Mason were among its visitors, as related on p. 23. Another visitor was Charles Mathews, the comedian, who one day found himself unable to cross the ferry with his horse for want of the few pence required for the toll. A beggar who had previously asked him for alms helped him out of his difficulty by lending him a shilling.

Upon the coast a little to the south of Briton Ferry are **Port Talbot** and **Aberavon,** with a joint station on the Great Western line. They possess a fine sandy beach which is attracting annually an increasing number of visitors.

Holders of tourist tickets can obtain a return ticket from Neath to Brecon at single fare.

THE VALE OF NEATH

The lower part of the Vale of Neath is less beautiful than in the days that preceded the exploitation of the mineral wealth of Glamorganshire, but its charm begins to manifest itself as soon as one gets clear of the smoke of the busy town at the mouth of the **Vale.** The most beautiful part of the district extends from some 4 or 5 miles from Neath, to Ystradfellte, a village delightfully situated 10 or 11 miles farther north. It is a tract of sylvan scenery, of ferny dales, high waterfalls, wooded hills, and romantic gorges, with the river making its tortuous way towards the south.

By reason of the absence of suitable landmarks, it is useless to attempt to guide the visitor's every step by any directions that could be given here, but with the help of the accompanying map, and such local guidance as can be obtained, there should be no difficulty in visiting the following

Glens, Waterfalls, and Caverns.

The nearest station to these natural beauties is *Glyn Neath,* 7 miles up the valley, and the village of Pont Neath Vaughan, Pont Nedd Fychan, "the Bridge of the Little Neath," 2¾ miles farther, is the nearest and best centre for the explorer.

There are two roads up the valley, one on each side of the river. It is immaterial which the pedestrian follows, but cyclists should take that on the north bank.

At the fifth milestone is **Ynys Arwd,** and there, on the left, is a pretty waterfall, in view from the road, but a closer inspection can be made by following a path from the road.

About a mile farther, a turning on the right leads to a bridge over the river and to the village of **Resolven.** Pass through the village, bear to the right beyond a chapel, and follow the road southwards for about half a mile. A little beyond St. David's Church cross the Melincourt brook, and then by going up the ravine for a few minutes you come to **Melincourt Fall,** which has a height of 80 feet.

On the main road, on the north side of the river, about half-way between Glyn Neath Station and Pont Neath Vaughan, is **Aberpergwm,** at the mouth of the Pergwm brook, which flows through an exceedingly picturesque glen. A former proprietor made a road through it and provided a stone seat with an inscription which has thus been turned into English :—

> " A resting place for Welshman true ;
> Let him thank God, enjoy the view,
> And then his onward way pursue."

Pont Neath Vaughan is in the midst of wooded hills at the confluence of the Nedd and the Mellte. Not far from it the Nedd is joined by the Perddyn and the Mellte by the Hepste. The ravines through which these streams and others near them flow are exceptionally beautiful.

About 1¼ miles up the Perddyn valley from Pont Neath Vaughan one comes to the **Lower Perddyn Fall,** known also as the Lady's Fall—Ysgŵd (*iscoot*) Gladys. It is 30 feet high. Behind it is a ledge of stone on which one can stand. Cross the stream by fording it immediately below the fall, or by a footbridge a little farther down the valley. Then walk towards the source of the stream, picking your way now this side of the water and now that, and after half an hour's rough scrambling you should reach **Ysgŵd Einon Gam,** falling from a height of 80 feet.

The Nedd or Little Neath, too, has its falls. A track that keeps close to the stream leads to the Lower Fall. This makes a much inferior spectacle to the Upper Fall ; but the latter is more difficult to reach, the visitor having to make his or her way through a wood. The route taken should be as near to the stream as possible, and the noise of the waterfall will finally be a sufficient guide to the spot.

The most beautiful of the falls in the district is **Ysgŵd-yr-**

Eira, "the Spout of Snow," locally known as the **Upper Cilhepste Fall.** It is a grand sheet of water between 40 and 50 feet high, precipitated so far from the cliff that persons can walk or even ride behind it, and except in time of flood, the passage is a dry one. The walk to it is through romantic scenery, and may be easily accomplished in 1¼ hours.

The route lies over Craig-y-Dinas, a lofty limestone mass, whose summit commands a superb view of the Vale of Neath and of the Mellte Glen. The south-west corner is immediately over the mouth of the Sychnant (*suck-nant*), or Dry Brook Gorge. It owes its name to the brook being subterranean for nearly a mile. It is very magnificent, but beyond a short distance it is well nigh inaccessible. By proceeding along the Sychnant cliff of Craig-y-Dinas, glimpses of the gorge can be obtained.

Those who care to pass behind the Upper Cilhepste Fall may go on to a series of cascades known as the **Lower Cilhepste Fall,** but the descent to this should only be made by expert climbers. The route to it from the Upper Fall follows a track through a wood for about 100 yards and then goes down to the bed of the stream, which marks the rest of the course to the fall.

In the Mellte are the **Clyngwyn Falls,** three in number. Speaking generally, they should not be visited except in the company of a local guide. The middle fall is the most imposing.

More than a mile of rough road lies between the Middle Clyngwyn Fall and **Porth-yr-Ogof,** Cavern Gate, an arch 43 feet wide and 20 feet high, forming the upper mouth of a natural tunnel, about a quarter of a mile long, through which the Mellte flows. By the aid of artificial light, the cavity can be penetrated for nearly half its length, but there is nothing particular to see. The lower mouth is only a small orifice. Porth-yr-Ogof is about 4 miles from Pont Neath Vaughan, from which it can be easily reached. Follow the Brecon road until Ystrad-fellte church is in sight, about a mile away, and then turn down a lane on the right through a gate, or before reaching the lane take a footpath on the right, between a small larch plantation and a thatched cottage. The lane and the path meet on the top of the cavern. A few yards from their junction take a lane on the left, and from its left side a footpath leads to the entrance to the cave. About 2 miles from this cavern is another, **Pwll-y-Rhyd.**

SWANSEA AND GOWER.

This great industrial centre and one of the finest playgrounds in the country lie adjacent to one another, in the centre of the south coast of Wales.

SWANSEA.

Situation.—At the mouth of the Tawe, in the centre of the bay to which the town gives its name.

Approach by Rail.—The principal lines are the Great Western, the London and North-Western and the Midland.

Bathing.—Sea-bathing opposite Trafalgar Terrace. There is a gently sloping beach of soft sand 3 miles long. Sea-water baths close to the sands.

Distances.—

By Rail.	MILES.	*By Road.*	MILES.
The Mumbles	5	Gower Inn	8¼
Neath	8	London	198¼
Glyn Neath	16	Rhosily	18
Llanmorlais	12		
London	198½		

Fishing.—Soles, cod, gurnet, ling, whiting, and other fish are caught a short distance off the beach. A few miles from the town there are streams containing trout, sewin, and salmon.

Golf.—*See* p. 172.

Hotels.—*See* Introduction.

Population.—Exceeds 100,000.

Post Office.—In Wind Street, opposite the *Metropole*.

Steamship Excursions.—Passenger steamers run to Bristol, Ilfracombe, Lynmouth, Clovelly, Oxwich Bay, Worm's Head, and Tenby.

A HUNDRED years ago Swansea was a favourite resort of holiday-makers, who were attracted by its sea-bathing and the natural beauty of its vicinity. In the summer of 1804, the *Cambrian*, the only newspaper then published in Wales, said: "Swansea is very full—genteel company and families are almost daily arriving at this gay resort of fashion. The promenade on the Burrows on Sunday evening displayed an assemblage of beauty and elegance fascinating beyond description." Since then has come a great commercial development, and Swansea is now a great mineral port. It no longer stands in the front rank of holiday resorts, but owes its reputation and importance to its exportation of coal, its tin-plate works, and its furnaces for smelting and refining copper. It boasts of being the centre of the anthracite coal district, of having

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WIND STREET, SWANSEA.

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OYSTERMOUTH CASTLE.

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MUMBLES HEAD.

more patent fuel works than any other port in the kingdom, and points with pride to its 3½ miles of quays, the enormous floor area of its warehouses, totalling some 300,000 square feet, to its immense docks, and to the fact that the only place in Wales surpassing it is Cardiff.

The country around Swansea holds spots that attract summer visitors in ever increasing numbers. The shops of Swansea and its places of amusement draw many of them to the town, and there are those who like to spend a few hours in it on account of its high position in the world of trade and commerce.

Visitors who arrive by the Great Western Railway pass through the industrial parts of Swansea and so their first view is of its least alluring aspect. Those who travel by the London and North-Western line do not make such a discouraging approach, for their route drops down to the coast through a beautifully wooded valley, and for the last 2 miles skirts the bay itself. But the town is first seen to the best advantage by those who approach it by sea. The bay is a broad and beautiful crescent that takes in nearly half the coastline of Glamorganshire. Long piers mark the harbour entrance, and as the town is built in terraces along the hill side, it produces a striking and pleasant impression when viewed from the water.

The docks are at the eastern extremity of the town, and the whole of its industries are enclosed in the valleys, which extend northward and eastward. The beauties of the town lie westward of its High Street.

An electric tramway service provides a cheap and ready means of traversing the principal streets and passing to or from the suburbs. Among the buildings on the routes of the cars are the Market, Guildhall, Royal Institution, Free Library, Art Gallery, and the remains of the old Castle. The last-named are towards the southern extremity of the long thoroughfare which, under the names of High Street, Castle Street, and Wind Street, runs almost parallel with the river.

The **Castle** is said to have been built in 1113 by an Earl of Warwick. It was rebuilt by Bishop Gower, of St. David's, about 1330. The remains are now used as a drill-hall and for trade purposes. They are chiefly noteworthy for a range of arched windows with delicate tracery. The best general view is obtained from the Strand, a thoroughfare

on their eastern side. By continuing down the Strand or along Wind Street, the Guildhall, or **Town Hall,** will be reached. In front of it is a monument of Mr. J. H. Vivian, the first member of Parliament for Swansea after the Reform Act. In Victoria Road, near the Victoria Station of the London and North-Western Railway, stands the **Royal Institution of South Wales,** one of the finest buildings in the town. It was founded in 1835. It comprises a museum (admission 1*d.*), containing a fine collection of objects presented by Sir Henry M. Stanley, as well as many other interesting specimens and curiosities ; a library and a reading-room well supplied with current periodical literature. At a short distance from the Royal Institution is **St. Mary's Church,** a large and handsome structure erected in 1898 at a cost of £30,000, to take the place of the historic church which was rebuilt in the year 1739. The only part of the original church which was incorporated with the new building is the **Herbert Chapel,** at the east end. It contains the tomb of Sir Matthew Craddock, who married the widow of the notorious Perkin Warbeck, and also the tomb of Sir Philip Hoby, who restored Neath Abbey about 1645.

In the old church-books is recorded the payment of one penny in 1598 " for smalle cordes to make a whippe for the dogges in the church," and under the date 1624 there is the record of a yearly stipend of 2*s.* " for keeping the dogges out of church."

Farther north, in Alexandra Road, is the **Free Library,** and on the first floor above is the **Corporation Art Gallery,** containing a valuable collection of rare prints. In Oxford Street is the **New Market,** a fine and extensive building erected in 1887. It is the largest and most important in Wales. Among wares that attract the special attention of strangers is " laver bread," regarded both as a medicine and a luxury. It is made from a particular species of seaweed collected on the rocks of Gower.

Swansea possesses several public parks. The **Cwmdonkin Park,** of 13 acres, on the hillside, is probably the prettiest. It commands a beautiful view of the bay. The Sketty tramcars run nearly to its gates. Near at hand is **Bryn Mill Park,** with a fine bowling green and a lake on which boating may be had. Close to the principal entrance to the sands is the **Victoria Park,** a flat area of over 16 acres, chiefly used for games, agricultural shows, and other outdoor en-

tertainments. The largest open space is **Llewelyn Park,** Morriston. It covers 42 acres.

A fine view-point is the top of the hill upon the slopes of which the town is built. Another is the pier, considerably over 2,000 feet in length.

To the general tourist, however, Swansea is now mainly of importance as being at the main entrance to

GOWER,

the "land of the setting sun," the wild peninsula, forming an ideal "playground," that extends westward of Swansea. It is some 15 miles in length from the Mumbles in the east to Worms Head on the west, and is from 4 to 6 miles broad. It is no land for those who are dependent on a railway for locomotion, but for the hardy pedestrian there is no more inviting district in the whole country. It is an area of purely agricultural or common land, with an exceedingly picturesque coast of limestone cliffs stretching all along the south. Inland, it is traversed by good public roads and intersected by footpaths, and all along the coast there is a most interesting cliff route. The bays have beaches of smooth sand, some are noted for the beauty and peculiarity of their shells, and at most of them fishing and boating can be enjoyed. Running inland from the coast are picturesque glens and valleys. The climate of the south coast is remarkably genial and salubrious.

There are hotels at Oystermouth (The Mumbles), Langland Bay, Caswell Bay, Bishopston, Parkmill, Reynoldston and Llangenydd. (For tariffs, *see* Introduction). There are public-houses where a bed can possibly be obtained at Pwll-du-Cove, Port Eynon and Llanrhidian. Good farmhouse lodgings can be obtained in the vicinity of Rhosily.

The London and North-Western Railway has direct communication with the peninsula at Llanmorlais, on the northern coast; at Gowerton, on the isthmus; at Killay, on the main road from Swansea to Rhosily; and at Mumbles Road on the eastern coast, 2 miles from the hotels at Oystermouth. Great Western and Midland passengers must alight at Swansea, from which they can drive to their destination, or go on by the **Mumbles Steam Tram,** which starts from Rutland Street, against the Victoria Station of the London and North-Western Railway, a fifteen minutes' walk from either the Great Western or the Midland station. Electric

tramcars run at short intervals from the Great Western station to the Steam Tram terminus.

Swansea to the Mumbles. The distance is 5 miles, the journey occupying about twenty minutes. There are 1st and 2nd class cars. Outside passengers on the latter are often inconvenienced by the steam and smoke. The line skirts Swansea Bay. Along the route and on the hills above are many fine residences. The cars run through Mumbles, or Oystermouth, to the end of the mainland and the foot of Mumbles Pier, a mile beyond the village.

OYSTERMOUTH AND THE MUMBLES.

Approach.—As above.
Hotels.—*See* Introduction.
Population.—5,000.
Recreation.—Steamboat excursions, boating, bathing, and sea-fishing. Oystermouth is the headquarters of the *Bristol Channel Yacht Club*, and a regatta is held annually towards the close of the summer.

Oystermouth is the favourite resort of the people of Swansea, who indeed regard it as a part of their town. The village is a long straggling sweep of houses along the curve of the bay, and climbing the high ridge of the western horn of the inlet. Along part of the shore are the oyster perches, rough and ready divisions of the foreshore by lines of boulders, with a floating log to mark the territory of each dredger. When the oyster-man has scraped up a quantity of oysters from the bottom of the sea he steers his skiff to the shore, makes it fast to his own particular log, then casts overboard the bivalves and leaves them to feed and grow until they are required for sale.

Inland, some 200 yards from the railway, is **Oystermouth Castle.** Clad with ivy, and perched on high ground, it forms an exceedingly picturesque object. It is the successor of a castle which was burnt in 1287. The chapel and some of the apartments are in a fairly good state of preservation. Upper rooms can be reached by staircases, and there is a path along the top of the outer wall. Among the thrilling stories that are related of the present building and its predecessor is one to the effect that "William, the last of the De Braoses, Lords of Gower, carried honest men captives from their homes and immured them in his Castle at Ostramuere, until they paid blackmail, or put their hands to documents in his favour." The fee for admission to the Castle is optional.

THE GOWER PENINSULA

Pembrey
Pembrey Burrows
Low Water Mark
The Nose
Pembrey Scot
Burry River
Pembrey Hark
Burry Port
Pembrey & Burry Port Sta.
Copper Works
Pier
Lifeboat Sta.
Cefn Sandy
Cefn Patrick
Breakwater
Pier
Machynys
Llanelly
Bynea Sta.
Bynea
Berwi
Penybryn
Morfa Bacas
Loughor Sta.
Loughor
Leuc-arum
River Loughor
Bacas Sands
Salt Marsh
Berth-lwyd
Gowerton
Gowerton Sta.
Afon Lliedi
Penclawdd
Llotrog
Hoobolas
Cefn-bryhan
Cae Mansel
Forest-fach
Waun-arlwydd
Penfilia
Tir-deunaw
Tre-boeth
Morriston
Mynydd-bach
Clasmont
Llangyfelach
Melin Llan
Penller-gare
Gorseinon
Gorseinon Sta.
Loughor Common
Mynydd Carn Goch
Cae-newydd
Castle
Llansamlet
Llansamlet Br.
Cockett
Cockett Sta.
Cwm-du
Cwm-bwrla
Hafod
Swansea
Swansea Bay Sta.
Bryn Mill Rd Sta.
Sketty Rd Sta.
Mumbles Road Sta.
Black Pill
Black Pill Sta.
Clyne
Clyne Common
Mumbles
Mumbles Pier
Mumbles Hd
Bishopston
Bishopston Sta.
Norton
Norton Rd Sta.
West Cross
Oxwich
Oxwich Bay
Oxwich Pt
Port Eynon
Port Eynon Bay
Port Eynon Pt
Helwick Channel
Rhossili
Rhossili Bay
Worms Head
Burry Holms
Llangennith
Burry Reynoldston
Llanddewi
Knelston
Rhossili
Middleton
Pitton
Pilton
Pilton Green
Hethel
Margam
Parkmill
Penmaen
Nicholaston
Penrice
Oxwich
Oxwich Green
Horton
Slade
Overton
Llanrhidian
Llanrhidian Sands
Salthouse Pt
Salthouse
Whiteford Pt
Whiteford Sands
Whiteford Burrows
Hooper Sands
West Hooper
Broughton Bay
Broughton
Llanmadog
Cheriton
Landimore
Leason
Llanrhidian Marsh
Penclawdd
Glanmorlais
Pound-hadd
Mynydd Bach-y-coos
Gelli-groes
Cil-onen
Pengwern
Pengwern Common
Fairwood Common
Killay
Killay Sta.
Dunvant
Garn-las
Ddol
Penyrheol
Sketty
Sketty Park
Fairwood
Clyne Wood
Penard
Burch
Ilston
Llanmadog Hill
Cocksteet
Tankerlake Moor
Burrygreen
Fairyhill
Hillend
Quadrigreen
Hardings Down
Druids Lo.
White Well
Arthur's Stone
Holy Well
Reynoldston
Stouthall
Ty-bryn
Longoaks
Parkmill
Stonemill
Gower Inn
Penard Ch
Penard Castle
Penmaen
Nicholaston
Penrice
Southgate
Burrows
Haels
James Grove
Hunts
Pwll-du
Pwll-du Bay
Pwll-du Head
Mumbles
Newton
Oystermouth Cas.
The Nab
Bracelet B.
Mumbles Pier
Mumbles Hill
Golf Co
Bobs Cave
Limeslade B.
Broadslade B.
Bacon Hole
Three Cliffs Bay
Shire Combe
Great Tor
Low Water Mark
Mewslade Bay
Yellow Tor
Paviland Cave
Paviland
Hills
Moorcorner
Blackhole Gut
Slades Foot
Overton Cliff
Lucas Bay
Sedgers Bank
Skysea
Longland Bay
Whitesholl Pt
Snelle Pt
Bucy
Green Grounds
Devils Bridge
Blow Hole
Old Castle
Kitchen Corner
Inner Head
The Sound
Tears Pt
Camp
Bennetts Pill
Burry Pill
Llanrhidian Pill
Lesson Pill
Whiteshell Bank
Great Pill
Longacre Marsh
North Hill
Cwm Ivy
Minor Pt
Burry Holms
Chapel
Llangenydd Burrows
Long Stone
Carms
Ryer's Downs
The Bulwark
Kennecestone
Stembridge
Oldwalls
Ystafell-hagr
Stonyford
Cae Morgan
Newton
Cillibion
Ulwyn-bwch
Freedown
Lledrid
Carter-ford
Pengwern
Purchill
Bryn-arail
Willoxton
Park Wood
Park-le-Bruce
Walterston
Redberhill
Park Pl.
Lunion
Longacre
Penyrpool
Killibedd
Old Castle
Whitestone
Mayals
Grange
Northway
Bellevue
Kittle
Hulbrough
Penard Course
Penard Burrows
Haels
Pwll-du
Pwll-du Bay
Pwll-du Head
Hotel
The Knap
Longland
Golf Co
Rams
Mumbles Hill
Mumbles Pier
Bracelet B.
Nicholaston Hall
Penrice Cas.
Penrice Sanctuary
Hangman's Cross
Norton
West
East
Oxwich Green
Oxwich Burrows
Oxwich Bay
Oxwich Pt
Port Eynon
Port Eynon Bay
Port Eynon Pt
Lighthouse
Coastguard Sta.
Hotel
Inn
Ch.
Cas.
Camp
Common
Holy's Waste
Skysea
Sedgers Bank
Lucas Bay
Bacon Hole
Pwll-du Head
Whiteshall Pt
Snelle Pt
Longland Bay
Limeslade B.
Broadslade B.
Bucy
Bobs Cave
Mumbles Hd
Mumbles Pier
Mumbles Hill
Golf Co
Rams
Bracelet B.
The Nab
Oystermouth Cas.
Newton
Pyle
Hotel
The Knap
Longland
Mumbles
Mumbles Pier Sta.
Mumbles Hd
Bobs Cave
Bucy
Limeslade B.
Broadslade B.
Whiteshall Pt
Snelle Pt
Longland Bay
Caswell B.
Brandy Cove
Pwll-du Head
Pwll-du Bay
Pwll-du
Hunts
Mixon Hole
Bacon Hole
Three Cliffs Bay
Shire Combe
Great Tor
Low Water Mark
Green Grounds
Devils Bridge
Blow Hole
Low Nick
Old Castle
Kitchen Corner
Inner Head
The Sound
Tears Pt
Camp
Mewslade Bay
Yellow Tor
Paviland Cave
Paviland
Hills
Moorcorner
Blackhole Gut
Slades Foot
Overton Cliff
Lucas Bay
Sedgers Bank
Skysea
Port Eynon Pt
Port Eynon Bay
Port Eynon
Oxwich Pt
Oxwich Bay
Oxwich
Oxwich Green
Horton
Slade
Overton
Pitton
Pilton
Pilton Green
Hethel
Margam
Middleton
Rhossili
Knelston
Llanddewi
Scurlage Cas.
Monksland
Berry
Cornerhouse

Train to Black Pill + take tram from station. or motor bus to Parkmill or Varnshead

Another interesting relic is the **Parish Church,** which is of Norman origin. The font is dated 1251. In the church is buried Thomas Bowdler, of Bath, the expurgator of Shakespeare and Gibbon.

Mumbles Head, made famous by the heroic action of its "Grace Darlings," the sisters Ace, daughters of the lighthouse-keeper, is the outer of two islets off Mumbles Point. Its lighthouse, which rises 300 feet above the sea, is the successor of one erected over a hundred years ago. The light is visible at a distance of 15 miles. The islets can be reached on foot at the lowest tides. Under the lighthouse is a small cavern known as **Bob's Cave.** About half a mile to the west are the **Mixon Sands,** marked by a bell buoy. A life-boat is stationed between the village and the Head, and at the coastguard station is a rocket apparatus.

Mumbles Pier is a grand promenade, and is the site of a comfortable hotel. During the season the attractions include excellent bands, concerts, and vocal and instrumental competitions.

The curious name "Mumbles" is thought by some to be derived from the moaning mumbling sound of the waves at this exposed spot, while others think it may be a corruption of "mammals," and so may have reference to the breast-like appearance of the islets.

Along the South Coast of Gower.

From Oystermouth to Worms Head, the coast presents a succession of interesting features. A road in continuation of the Parade leads through a cutting in the limestone cliff to a small bay commonly called—

Bracelet Bay. Its name is a corruption of Broadslade, while "slade" is the equivalent of "slide," and has reference to a landslip. The inlet is in full view of Mumbles Head. From it a good path, steep in places, runs along the cliff to—

Rotherslade Bay, where the *Osborne* and *Rotherslade Hotels* are situated, and refreshment booths upon the beach tell of the popularity of the spot with day visitors. It is but a miniature opening, and is really a part of—

Langland Bay, about 1½ miles from Mumbles Head. This is a beautiful inlet with a fine stretch of level sand, a belt of shingle, another of rocks, a few flat green meadows, then a series of villa-dotted acclivities. In the very centre of the semicircle stands *Langland Bay Hotel*, built to be the marine mansion of Mr. Crawshay, brother of the famous "Iron

King." Here, as elsewhere, the rocks on either side are worn into grotesque shapes by the action of the waves. From the bay there is a fine view across the Bristol Channel to the Devonshire coast between Lynmouth and Ilfracombe, 20 miles away. Rough sheep tracks lead over the hills to—

Caswell Bay, in some respects more beautiful than Langland. It has even better sands, and the outer rocks on both sides are remarkable for the number of caves cut out by the sea. From one on the western side there issues a spring that supplies Oystermouth with water. Perched above the centre of the bay there is a good hotel. There are fine villas also. Half a mile west of Caswell is—

Brandy Cove, a wild little inlet that has traditions of the contraband trade in brandy.

Rotherslade, Langland, and Caswell Bays are all connected with Oystermouth by a carriage road. The distance between Caswell Bay and Oystermouth by the high-road is about 1½ miles.

From Caswell Bay, too, we may follow the cliffs to—

Pwlldu (blackpool) **Bay,** a couple of miles farther, with a pebbly ridge along its front, and shut in on its western side by a great headland of red limestone. It lies at the outlet of—

Bishopston Valley, one of the prime beauty spots of Gower. It is a narrow, tortuous gorge through the limestone, running inland for a couple of miles. Luxuriant wooded slopes alternate with bare weathered rocks, patches of heather and bracken, or small stretches of grass. At two spots on its sides the ground has caved in, forming deep pits in which huge trees grow. Through it flows a river which, for over a mile, has an underground course. All trace of the stream is suddenly lost in a still pool, till it appears again down the Valley, just after flowing through a cave. The upper portion of the valley is more beautiful than the lower. At the head is the village of **Bishopston,** some 2 miles from Caswell.

About a mile westward of Pwlldu Inn is—

Bacon Hole, a cave in which, in 1850, were found the bones of various animals that had died many centuries before. There is nothing remarkable in the size and form of the cave. It is nowhere more than 20 feet high, and is but a hollow in the cliff. A little farther westward is—

Minchin Hole, another cave that proved to be rich in bones. The entrance is about 35 feet high and 20 feet wide, while

the cavity penetrates the cliff some 170 feet and expands to a width of 70 feet. Those who would see it should take a guide and provide candles or torches.

The treasures from these "holes" and other caves in the vicinity were for the most part deposited in Swansea Museum. Among the articles found were remains of the mammoth and rhinoceros, a portion of a tusk that must have been 12 feet long when intact, horns that had been wrought upon by human hands, and fragments of ancient British pottery.

About a mile beyond Minchin Hole is—

Three Cliffs Bay, which takes its name from three huge cliffs that are prominent objects in the view from the sea. It is a pretty nook. There are bold masses of rock, glittering sands, a background of wooded hills and a tiny stream, the *Penard Pill*. On the east side of the bay is **Penard Castle,** an uninteresting ruin, and westward is a huge mass of limestone known as **Great Tor.** At low water the sands can be crossed to Oxwich, 2 miles away. Less than a mile from Penard Castle is *Gower Inn*, at **Parkmill,** a popular resort on the main road from Swansea.

The walk across the sands of—

Oxwich Bay opens up views of richly wooded cliffs and other fine scenery. The place from which the bay takes its name is but a hamlet, with no public accommodation for travellers. The church is built on a rocky ledge amid a grove of trees at the extreme end of the bay. The cave that is seen standing above the hamlet during the walk across the sands is **Penrice Church,** prettily situated and on a fine view-point, but with nothing in itself to draw the visitor to it. Within view also are the modern **Penrice Castle** and the ivied ruin of the ancient building which it has replaced. Oxwich also has the remnant of a castle now used as a farmhouse. It is about 1½ miles from the hamlet, from which it is approached by a beautifully wooded but steep lane. The principal portions now standing are a six-storeyed tower and a gateway bearing the arms of Sir Rice Mansel, who built it in 1541.

Next in order is—

Port Eynon Bay, an inlet beset with sand-dunes, which give it a most uninviting appearance. **Port Eynon** is a quaint village consisting chiefly of old thatched cottages, but having a few more modern stone-built houses. During the summer all the spare rooms are occupied by visitors who find charm

in simplicity. There are good sands, and the sea-fishing is excellent. On the west side of Port Eynon Point is—

Culver Hole, a curious cave that is not likely to be found without a guide. The natural entrance has been nearly closed with masonry. The purpose of the work can only be conjectured. Within are upper floors which were reached by a staircase. Between 2 and 3 miles farther west are the famous—

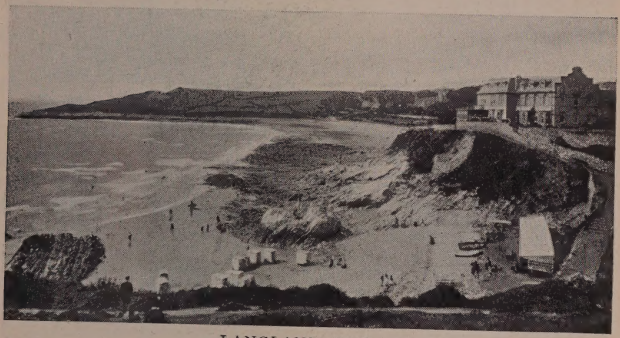
Paviland Caves, two in number, about a hundred yards apart, at a point called Yellow Top by reason of the golden patches of lichen upon it. The caves are accessible by land only at dead low water. In one was found part of the skeleton of a woman. As it had been reddened with oxide of iron, carried possibly by the water that percolated through the roof of the cave, it became known among scientists as the Red Lady of Paviland. Near the skeleton were fragments of ivory rods and pieces of ivory rings, supposed to have been bracelets, which Dr. Buckland, who unearthed them, believed were made from portions of the antediluvian tusks that were in the same cave. Part of an elephant's skull, an elephant's tusks, and a mammoth's molar teeth, were among the relics which the cave contained.

About a mile westward of Yellow Top is—

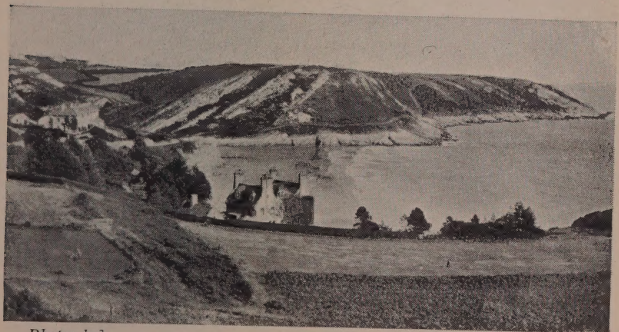
Mewslade Bay, generally considered the most picturesque inlet in all Gower. Around it are stupendous cliffs, carved by the water into every variety of fantastic form. The rocks can be explored at low-tide, and the bay is then charming in its serenity, but at high-water the sea visits the sandy recesses, and the scene in rough weather is wildly grand.

Worms Head, at the western extremity of the south coast, is a noble promontory broken up into cliff and chasm, but it is only seen in all its terrible grandeur when a south-west gale is driving huge waves against it. It is a mile from the mainland to the extreme point, to which there is no special reason for going, except that it *is* the very head. The Head is the outer of two islets. Both can be reached on foot during a period extending from some 2½ hours before low-water to about 2½ hours after. The inner islet affords pasturage for a few sheep. Between the two islets is the **Devil's Bridge,** a narrow but not dangerous track over the neck of rocks. The Head rises about 200 feet above high-water. In one of the rocks is a blow-hole, in which the wind whistles when a storm is brewing.

MUMBLES.



LANGLAND BAY.



Photos by] [*F. Frith & Co., Ltd.*

CASWELL BAY.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,] [*Dundee.*

ARTHUR'S STONE, REYNOLDSTON.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,] [*Dundee.*

PARKMILL.

To Reynoldston and Arthur's Stone.

From Swansea to Reynoldston is a favourite drive of about 12 miles along the road to Worms Head. **Reynoldston** is a small, pleasant village, standing around a green and possessing one of the few hotels that are to be found in Gower away from the Mumbles and neighbouring resorts. About a mile from the village is the cromlech known as **Arthur's Stone,** a block 14 feet long, 6 feet wide and 8 feet thick, resting on smaller stones. The way to it from the hotel is across the green and then to the right up the hillside. At the top you cross the moor near a diminutive tarn, and having climbed the opposite slope, the stone will be in view, standing in a hollow. The view from it is very fine. Northward is the Burry River, with Llanelly on the farther bank. In the background are the hills of Carmarthenshire, and towards the west is the coastline of Carmarthen Bay.

Reynoldston is but 4 miles from Oxwich, and is, therefore, a convenient resting-place for pedestrians who have tramped along the coast; and Arthur's Stone is 4½ miles from *Llanmorlais Station* on the London and North-Western line, by which Mumbles Road Station (for the Mumbles) can be reached, or one can get to Swansea by changing at Gowerton to the Great Western Railway.

From Arthur's Stone to Llanmorlais the route is towards the north-east, to a white house to which one should go in a bee line. From the house a rough road leads to the main road, upon which turn to the left, in a few yards to the right, and then, when the road forks, turn downhill to the right, to pass through **Llanrhidian.** At a turning near the church are stone stocks. The main part of the church was rebuilt in 1858. The tower is ancient.

At the fork beyond the turning to Llanrhidian Church keep to the right, and also when the road again forks, and the railway is in sight. The latter turning is about half a mile from the railway station, and the route from it runs along a tramway. The road between Llanrhidian and Llanmorlais Station runs through **Cockleland,** as attested by the heaps of cockle shells and the presence of the cockle-women in flannel dresses and quaint straw bonnets. The cockles are obtained in great quantities from the Burry estuary.

As one traverses the road the prospect in front is largely

veiled by the smoke of **Llanelly,** a busy maritime, mining and manufacturing town, with ample dock accommodation, and copper, lead, iron and tin-plate works, but nothing to attract the tourist, with the possible exception of its public library and geological museum, both housed in a well-designed building called the Athenæum. The most conspicuous structure in Llanelly is a tower that forms the ventilating shaft of a mine. It is 320 feet high, and in clear weather is visible from Tenby, 20 miles distant. If the traveller faces about he will see against the sky-line the remains of **Weobly Castle,** once a fortified house rather than a fortress.

From Reynoldston to Llanmorlais Station.

Instead of taking the direct route to Llanmorlais Station by way of Arthur's Stone, the tourist who desires to see more of north-west Gower should go from Reynoldston to **Llangenydd,** between 4 and 5 miles to the north-west. It once held a priory founded in the reign of Henry I. Burial slabs of three of the priors may be seen in the church, which has the distinction of being the largest in Gower. It is in the Early English style, but has been restored. It contains a mutilated fourteenth-century effigy of one of the Delameres, a Norman family that held the manor of West Town. From Llangenydd the route is over **Llanmadoe Hill** to **Cheriton,** some 2¼ miles to the north-east. The summit of the hill shows traces of an ancient camp, and affords an extensive view, for the eye can range westward to Carmarthen Bay and in the opposite direction across Gower to Swansea Bay. Cheriton has an interesting little church containing some good Early English work. From this village the route follows the main road eastward for a couple of miles to Weobly Castle, and then for a couple of miles farther to a road going off on the left to **Llanrhidian,** from which the route has been described above.

Reynoldston to Rhosily and Worms Head.

The direct route from Reynoldston to Rhosily runs through Llandewi, but a better way is a more southerly road that runs past Scurlege Castle. For the first mile or so the two routes are identical, skirting two sides of **Stout Hall,** and passing through the pretty village of **Knelston,** with a church in ruins. Just beyond it the road to **Llandewi** goes off to

the right, while that which is recommended bears to the left and in half a mile reaches the slight remains of **Scurlege Castle,** now a farmhouse. Less than half a mile farther the road turns westward and runs through a bleak district to the little hamlet of **Pilton Green,** and the hamlet of **Middleton.** The latter is just short of **Rhosily,** a small desolate village on a fine cliff overlooking Rhosily Bay. The church has a good Norman doorway. From the top of the Down, 633 feet high, on the north side of the village, there is an extensive view. Towards the west are seen the spire of Tenby Church and the village of Saundersfoot. Towards the south-west is Lundy Island ; due south are the cliffs about Ilfracombe ; while towards the east may be seen the greater part of Western Gower and the long ridge of Cefn Byrn, just behind Reynoldston and Nicholaston. Rhosily is 6 miles from Reynoldston, and a good mile from that point of the peninsula which is nearest to Worms Head (p. 92).

THE VALLEY OF THE TOWY.

Carmarthen—Llandilo—Llandovery.

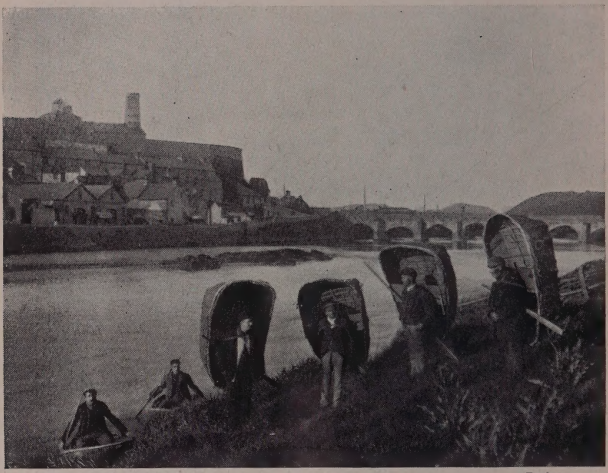
THE Valley of the Towy is a fertile tract some 30 miles long and 2 miles wide in a wild and rugged region. It crosses Carmarthenshire from north-east to south-west, and is the largest in the county. The hills that rise on either side are beautifully wooded and richly grassed. The valley contains the little market-towns of Llandilo and Llandovery, and the busy little port of Carmarthen commands all the traffic through the fertile land round the head of the estuary. The prettiest portion is from 6 to 10 miles north of Llandovery, but between that tract and the mouth of the river there is very much to delight the eye, especially when the valley is viewed from its bordering heights, for by reason of the breadth and flatness of the lower part of the valley the prospect suffers when the view-point is at a low level.

The Vale of Towy has been called "the heart of South Wales." "It is famous in Welsh life, Welsh history, and Welsh song. In the days of the Welsh princes it was the political centre of the southern kingdom, and, save Glamorgan, was the most distinguished strip of South Wales. As arms and men abounded here in the days of the Plantagenets," says Mr. Bradley, "so for the same reason do country houses, prosperous or ancient families, and fine farms distinguish the Vale of Towy at this time above most parts of South Wales."

In the eyes of anglers the river that runs through this favoured tract is worthy of its valley. It has been "celebrated for all time for the sewin that begin to run in the first July floods. Though not so good a salmon river as the Usk, Wye or Teifi, fish run up it freely, travelling far into the mountain gorges." It is partly preserved, but permission to fish is readily obtained.

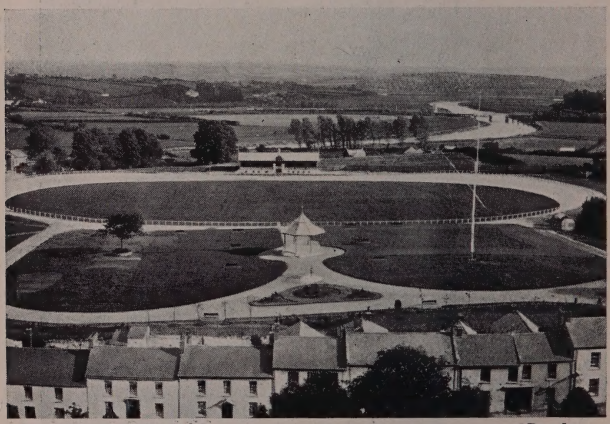
Excelsior Photo Co., Ltd.,] [*Carmarthen.*

THE QUAY, CARMARTHEN.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,] [*Reigate.*

CORACLE MEN, CARMARTHEN.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,] [*Dundee.*

PARK AND CYCLE TRACK, CARMARTHEN.

CARMARTHEN.

Situation.—On the right bank of the Towy, 7 miles north of its entrance into Carmarthen Bay, and on the main line of the Great Western Railway.
Churches and Chapels.—There are no fewer than 18. Four of the buildings belong to the Established Church and one to the Roman Catholics. St. Peter's is the principal church.
Educational Institutions.—The *Presbyterian College*, on the Parade; *South Wales and Monmouth Training College*, about half a mile from the town, for the training of young men as elementary school teachers; Intermediate Schools for boys and girls in Waundew Road; High School for girls in Wellfield Road; The School of Art, erected by private effort, the only building in Wales specially providing for the teaching of Art.
Distances.—Cardigan, 32 miles; Fishguard, 32; Haverfordwest, 33; Paddington, 221; Tenby, 31.
Hotels.—*See* Introduction. Hotel 'buses meet trains.
Population.—Remains stationary at about 10,000.
Post Office.—King Street, quarter of a mile from Railway Station.

"Few English tourists go to Carmarthen, though they hunt up scores of neighbourhoods not a quarter so well worth seeing," says Mr. Bradley, in his *Highways and Byways in South Wales*. But holiday makers are becoming wiser, so Carmarthen is receiving a yearly increasing number, and the attractions which the town possesses as a place for permanent residence are being more and more recognized. It stands on rising ground on the north side of the Towy, which is navigable from the town to the Bristol Channel, some 7 miles distant as the crow flies. The site was occupied by the Roman settlement of Maridunum, the "sea-fort," of which the word Carmarthen is the Celtic equivalent. It presents a striking appearance when viewed from the railway station, as the buildings extend from the edge of the stream to the summit of the ridge which is backed by the higher ground of Penlan Hill, while away to the right are the Hills of Merlin (3 miles) and Llangunnor.

The town is a quaint, old-fashioned place, about a mile and a quarter long by half a mile broad in its widest part. The streets are narrow and irregular and mostly steep. On the outskirts are many fine modern residences. By reason of its position and railway facilities Carmarthen has become the site of the Lunatic Asylum and the Prison for the counties of Cardigan, Carmarthen, and Pembroke. It also contains the offices of the County Council, County Court and Probate Court. The assizes for one or more counties are held in the town, as are also various shows, races, and meetings of more than local interest.

The Roman occupation of the site extended beyond the later boundary of the town, as marked by the wall which once

defended it. A domestic altar (preserved at the Vicarage), a public altar, found near the entrance to St. Peter's churchyard, and the remains of buildings of considerable extent, disclosed by excavations on the site of East Parade, are among the relics of Roman times that have been brought to light.

The **Castle** occupied one point of the ridge on which Carmarthen stands. Two towers and the outer walls alone remain intact, and they are so obscured by the County Gaol that little can be seen of them from the town side, while the ramparts are blocked with houses built against them. At one period Carmarthen was the residence of the Princes of South Wales, and town and castle then were frequently attacked, either by the English, or by the Welsh who sought to recover them from the English. During the Civil War the castle more than once changed hands. It was finally dismantled by the Parliamentarians. The keep was used as a prison until the erection of the gaol on part of the site of the castle in 1789–92.

From the Railway Station, a turning to the right leads to the Swansea Road on the south side of the **Bridge,** an ancient structure that has been several times widened, as may be seen by an examination of its arches. From the bridge, a steep ascent leads past the County Gaol into Spilman Street, at the end of which is **St. Peter's Church,** a fine old building on the highest ground in the older portion of the town. It belongs to various periods and has a nave, wide south aisle, north transept, two chancels, and a lofty square tower. The date of its erection is unknown. The earliest known reference to the building is in a document of the time of Henry I. (1100–1135). The south aisle and its chancel were built about 400 years ago. The east end of the south aisle is the Consistory Court of the Bishop of St. David's.

On the south side is the tomb of *Sir Rhys ap Thomas* and Eva his wife, transferred from the Church of the Grey Friars on the dissolution of the monastery. Upon it are the effigies of Sir Rhys and his lady. The former is of gigantic size : the latter very diminutive. Sir Rhys owned all the more important castles in South Wales, and it was largely owing to his support that the Duke of Richmond became Henry VII. (p. 139). For his service he was made Governor of all Wales, besides being the recipient of other marks of favour.

SOUTH WALES
(SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION)
English Miles
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
CARMARTHEN BAY
BURRY INLET
GOWER
SWANSEA BAY
CARMARTHEN
CARDIGAN
LLANELLY
SWANSEA
NEATH
PORT TALBOT
KIDWELLY
LAUGHARNE
LLANDILO
LLANDOVERY
NEWCASTLE EMLYN
LAMPETER
Pont Stephen
Saundersfoot Bay
Carmarthen Bar
Caldy Sound
CALDY Is.
TENBY
Burry Holmes
WORMS HEAD
Rhossili Bay
Oxwich Bay
Oxwich Hd.
Port Eynon B.
Port Eynon Hd.
Mumbles Head
Light Ho.
Pendine
Ferry Side Sta.
Ishmaels
Llansaint
Llanstephan
Llansadurnen
Llandawke
Llandyfriog
Llandysul
Llanfihangel ar Arth
Llanfihangel Rhos y Corn
Llanfihangel Cilfargen
Llanfihangel Aberbythych
Llanfihangel Abercowin
Llanfihangel Penbedw
Llanfihangel Penbryn
Llanfihangel Llanwenog
Llanfihangel Llanfihangel
Llanfihangel Llanfihangel
Llanfihangel Llanfihangel

On the south side of the sacrarium is a curious epitaph to Anne, Lady Vaughan.

Near the small south door is the mural tablet of *General Sir William Nott*, whose remains were placed in a vault in the churchyard to the north of the church. He was the son of a proprietor of a former "Ivy Bush Hotel," was born in 1782, and gained fame for his storming of Ghuznee, in the first Afghan War. There is also a tablet commemorating the martyrdom of Bishop Ferrar.

The organ probably covers the burial-place of *Walter Devereux*, first Earl of Essex. A little to the south is the burial-place of *Sir Richard Steele* (p. 23), to whose memory there is a brass tablet on the south wall. His coffin was deposited in the vault of the Scurlocks, his wife's family.

The lectern and fine carved pulpit are modern memorials.

Beyond St. Peter's is Priory Street, which owes its name to the existence of a religious house, of which scanty remains may be traced to the south of the thoroughfare. On the left-hand side of Priory Street is the carefully guarded stump of an **Oak Tree,** the palladium of Carmarthen, according to one of the legends connected with it.

The English rendering is—

"When the oak falls down
Then sink shall the town."

A little beyond the fateful oak, on the opposite side of the street, is a turning that leads to the **Parade,** a pleasant promenade about a quarter of a mile in length. It commands fine views of the Vale of Towy. The principal approach is at the upper end of Spilman Street. A path at the end of the Parade leads to a very pleasant walk called the **Pond Side.** It extends alongside the stream from the tin-works to the Gwili river, a distance of about 2 miles.

From St. Peter's Church, King Street runs parallel with Spilman Street. It contains the Post Office and Assembly Rooms, and terminates in **Nott Square,** the site of a monument to the memory of General Sir William Nott, who "looks down upon his compatriots from the top of a granite pedestal, immortalized in bronze, and clad in the garb of the first occupants of Caerfyrddin (Carmarthen), to wit the Romans, who had a station here."

Within the railings enclosing the monument is a tablet commemorating the martyrdom of Dr. Robert Ferrar, Bishop of St. David's, who was burned here during the Marian persecution of the Protestants. A stone which

stood on the reputed spot of his execution probably supported the stake to which he was bound, and for that reason it was made the capstone of the spire of Abergwili Church.

In the left-hand corner of the farther side of the square is the entrance to a yard which affords a view of the north-western gateway and two circular towers of the old castle.

From Nott Square we pass towards the right into Guildhall Square, the site of the **Guildhall,** which was built in 1767. It contains the Assize Court, Town Council Chamber, and various county and municipal offices. In the Assize Court are various portraits. Among them is one of General Sir Thomas Picton, by Sir Martin Shee. Sir Thomas fell at Waterloo. He was a native of Pembrokeshire, but was intimately connectd with Carmarthen also. Another portrait here is that of General Nott, by T. Brigstocke. In front of the Guildhall is a monument in memory of the men who fell in the South African War.

From Guildhall Square we enter Lammas Street, containing a monument to Welsh Fusiliers who fell in the Crimea. Behind the houses on the south side of this spot is **Friars Park,** formerly the site of a monastery of Grey Friars; slight remains of the building may still be seen. To the south of the upper end of Lammas Street, and adjoining Friars Park, is the **Recreation Ground,** a delightful public resort consisting of 12 acres of ground overlooking the level reaches of the river. One of its features is a concrete cycling track, one of the finest in the kingdom. The sports held at Easter, Whitsuntide, and on the August Bank Holiday attract leading cyclists from all parts of the country and many thousands of visitors. Lammas Street also leads us to General Picton's Monument, an obelisk of limestone 60 feet high, that has superseded a more elaborate memorial.

Retracing our steps until we are half-way back to Guildhall Street, we turn to the left into Mansel Street, which leads to the **Market Place,** a very busy spot on market and fair days. The Market Place, Fair Ground and Slaughter House cover an area of $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and are the property of the Corporation.

The trade of Carmarthen is now principally confined to the export and import of agricultural produce and requirements, and to dealings in timber, building materials, and manufactured articles. The chief manufacturing industry of the district is the weaving of woollen goods. There are

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,] [Reigate.

KIDWELLY CASTLE.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,] [*Dundee.*

LLANSTEPHAN.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,] [*Dundee.*

CARREG CENNEN CASTLE.

several factories in the town and neighbourhood. Much is also done in the homes of workers, who buy their yarn and weave it on a hand-loom. This material is famed for its durability.

WALKS AND EXCURSIONS FROM CARMARTHEN.

The River Side.

A popular promenade is an embankment, called the **Bulwark,** extending for about a mile on the south side of the river opposite the quay. There is a similar walk on the north bank. Both are much frequented on summer evenings, particularly during high tides, when there are many pleasure boats upon the water, and perhaps fifty or sixty fishermen in their coracles. These are boats such as were used by the ancient Britons. They are made of canvas stretched on a framework of interwoven rods and rendered waterproof with pitch or tar. They are so light that they can be carried with ease on a man's back. Coracle men fish in pairs. They stretch a net between them, and when they feel a fish struggling in the meshes, each hauls in his end until the prey is secured.

Penlan Hill.

On the north of Carmarthen, about twenty minutes' walk from the centre of the town by way of Waterloo Terrace, and then past the Workhouse. It is the highest point in the immediate vicinity of Carmarthen. From the summit an almost bird's-eye view of the town is obtained, as well as a wide prospect over the surrounding country. Towards the east are the Black Mountains and the Carmarthenshire Van. On the hills in the middle distance is **Nelson's Tower,** or Paxton's Tower as it is locally called because it was erected by Sir William Paxton. It was raised to commemorate the victory and death of the hero of Trafalgar. From the hill there is a choice of routes for those who wish to prolong the walk instead of returning direct to the town. They may either pass over the hill and descend to the left to the remarkable basin-like hollow called Cwmdu (Black Valley), and then return to Carmarthen by the Cemetery Road, or, for a shorter way, they may descend to the right by the reservoir, and will then enter the town by Priory Street.

To Abergwili.

Abergwili is a small village two miles from Carmarthen, near the confluence of the Gwili and the Towy. It may be reached by following the main road to which Priory Street leads, or by the Parade to the tin-works, there turning to the left, and proceeding by Pond Side (the path alongside the little stream) to the high-road. The village is the site of the

palace of the Bishop of St. David's. Much of it was destroyed by fire early in this century. A pond in the grounds occupies part of a former channel of the Towy. Bishop Richard Davies, the translator of the Bible into Welsh, was buried at Abergwili, and the pretty little church contains a monument to his memory. The stone which caps the spire of the church is supposed to be that to which was fixed the stake at which Bishop Ferrar suffered martyrdom (*see* p. 99). Abergwili was the scene of a sanguinary battle, in which Llewelyn the First gained a victory over a Scottish pretender to his throne.

To Merlin's Hill.

This is a beautifully wooded eminence about a mile beyond Abergwili. The view extends from the confines of Brecknockshire to the sea and from the Llangyndeyrn Lime Rocks (*see* below) to Preceley Top. On Merlin's Hill tradition places the cave of the mighty magician whose name it bears. Spencer tells how the wizard abode

> "Low underneath the ground,
> In a deep delve far from the view of day,
> That of no living wight he mote be found,
> Whenso he counseld with sprights encompast round."

To Llangunnor Hill.

A beautiful eminence on the south side of the Towy, 1½ miles from the town. After crossing the river turn to the left. At the end of about a mile is a narrow, steep lane leading to the church near the summit of the hill. The building contains a monument to Sir Richard Steele, the essayist, who lived for a time near the foot of the hill (p. 23). The churchyard commands a fine view of the Towy valley and of Abergwili village. On returning take the second gate on the right and follow the path to the brow of the hill. From it is a sheer drop of 600 feet. Around is a glorious panorama.

To Llangendeirne Lime Rocks.

These are a mile to the south-east of the village from which they take their name. The village is situated on the **Gwendraeth Fach,** one of the best trout streams in the county. It is 6 miles from Carmarthen by the upper Llanelly road, which passes within a quarter of a mile of the summit of the neighbouring limestone ridge. Upon the ridge are two ancient stone circles, and from it there is an extensive prospect which includes even Tenby and Lundy Isle. At Capel Dyddgen, on the right-hand side of the road, are the ruins of an ecclesiastical building, and near it is a capacious cave.

To Kidwelly.

Kidwelly is almost due south of Carmarthen, from which it is 9 miles by road and 12 by rail. Passengers travelling westward by the Great Western Railway reach it before arriving at the county town. It is situated at the confluence and mouth of the *Gwendraeth Fawr* and *Gwendraeth Fach*. It is an ancient corporate town which was once protected by walls and was a place of importance. It is chiefly noteworthy now for a noble old **Castle,** the property of the Cawdor family, by whom the remains have been carefully strengthened so that the relic is the best preserved of the nine castles in Carmarthenshire. It dates from the reign of Edward II., and stands on the site of a Norman castle said to have been destroyed by Llewelyn in 1231. (*Admission 6d. Key at a cottage near the main gateway.*) The four round towers enclosing the courtyard are not only standing but can be ascended. Two other towers flank the gateway, which is nearly perfect, another is on the outer side, and from the east face of the castle the chapel tower projects. The older castle is said on one occasion to have been defended against the Normans by a noble lady, in the absence of her husband, the then Prince of South Wales, but the Welsh having been defeated outside the castle, the Princess became the prisoner of the victors and was beheaded.

The **Church** is only of interest to the ecclesiologist. It belonged to the Priory and is a large building that has been badly treated by the shortening of the nave at the west end and in various other ways.

Some 5 miles to the east of Kidwelly, and nearer still to Llanelly, is the station for **Pembrey** and **Burry Port,** the site of fine golf links.

To Llanstephan and Ferryside.

These are two villages on opposite sides of the estuary of the Towy. Both offer sea-bathing. At high-water the estuary is a fine sight; at low tide it is an expanse of sand. **Ferryside** is more frequented than its neighbour, as it is more exposed to the sea, and has a station on the Great Western Railway between Carmarthen and Kidwelly. **Llanstephan** may be reached by ferry boat from Ferryside or by 8 miles of road from Carmarthen. On the summit of a precipitous hill, of which the base is washed by the sea, is the shell of a castle. In a pretty cliff walk around the hill is **St. Anthony's Well,** which formerly had a reputation for miraculous properties.

To Llandilo,

15 miles to the east of Carmarthen. There are two carriage

roads, with the river and the railway between them. The upper road is the more picturesque. It passes Dynevor Park and Castle. The lower road runs by Golden Grove (p. 106).

LLANDILO.

Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.
Population.—About 2,000.
Railway Stations.—*Llandilo* (G.W.R. and L. & N.-W.R.) and *Llandilo Bridge* (L. & N.-W.R.).

Llandilo stands on a high bluff on the north bank of the Towy. It derives its name from its **Church,** which is dedicated to St. Teilo, who is said to have been buried here, but Penally and Llandaff also claim to be his last resting-place, and the claim of the Cathedral city is probably the best founded. The church was rebuilt in 1848 in the Decorated style, but the tower is Perpendicular. Angling in the Towy, lovely scenery, quietude, and interesting spots near at hand are the main attractions which Llandilo has to offer visitors.

Geologists will remember that the town gives its name to a portion of the Silurian formation, Llandilo Flags, to which Sir R. Murchison drew attention after studying them in this district.

EXCURSIONS FROM LLANDILO.

To Dynevor Park and Castle.

The park, a large and very beautiful tract, adjoins the town. On weekdays it may be entered from the lodge on the Carmarthen road, just beyond the market, or by a broad pathway which leads from the bridge and passes the pretty little church of **Llandyfeisant.** Above the church the two roads meet and lead towards **Dynevor Castle**, or **Newton House,** the modern mansion of Lord Dynevor. The public may not pass beyond a gate across the drive, but *bona fide* visitors may make application at the stables for the gardener, who has the key of the old castle. This stands on a knoll in the most beautiful part of the grounds, some little distance from the house, and is reached by following the road to the left into the valley. For many years Old Dynevor Castle was the residence of the princes of South Wales ; and it was one of the castles granted by Henry VII. to his great supporter, Sir Rhys ap Thomas, an ancestor of the present proprietor.

The first of the palace-fortresses here is said to have been erected nearly two hundred years before the Norman conquest of England, by Roderic the Great, who brought all the Welsh princes under his sway and compiled a criminal code which is strange reading in these days. Besides the matters which

one would expect to find there, the document contains "regulations on all manner of things—the way to handle hunting dogs, the manner of hunting each kind of game, the language of the masters of hounds, who might only swear by their horn or by their leash," the price to be paid for any one of a host of articles, from a coracle to a pair of gloves, a fur-trimmed mantle to an apple-tree. It set forth also the position of the various royal officers, among whom was a Court Crier of Silence, charged with the duty of rapping the pillars of the banqueting hall with a stick when the revellers became too boisterous, and was recompensed with the fines he could collect from the noisy feasters. The lowest functionary was "the Royal Footholder, whose duty it was to sit under the table and nurse the king's foot and 'scratch it when required.'" The perquisite of the porter was "every billet of wood he could clutch off a load as it went through the portals, with the hand that was not occupied in holding open the gate."

The castle was probably rebuilt in the reign of William I. It was inhabited till about 1760, when it was much damaged by fire. The principal parts of the remains are a round keep and a square tower. From the top of the former there is a magnificent prospect on all sides except towards the east, where the dense foliage interrupts the view. Golden Grove, Nelson's Monument, and Carreg Cennen Castle are prominent features in the landscape.

To Carreg Cennen Castle,

a ruined fortress situated to the south-east of Llandilo. With its surroundings it forms one of the most striking sights in this part of Wales. It is $4\frac{3}{4}$ or 7 miles from Llandilo, according to the route by which it is approached. Pedestrians by inquiry may make their way to it by a route that for the greater part of the distance is across fields and along lanes. It goes over the Trichrug ridge and measures about $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles. Those who cycle or drive can reach the spot by a road that follows the course of the *Cennen* river, or by taking a south-east course over the Trichrug ridge past Caeglas and up Penstorom Hill. The former means a journey of 7 miles, the latter one of $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The shorter route is steeper and rougher than the longer road. A very pleasant excursion is made by going one way and returning by the other. It is better to use the longer road for the outward journey, as the finest view of the castle is then obtained while approaching it. Near Derwydd Road Station, 3 miles from Llandilo, the Cennen Valley road turns to the east and for a short distance keeps quite close to the river. The two carriage roads meet at Pont Trapp, a mile and a half from the Castle, which from that

point is full in view, "a castle like a rock upon a rock," so perfectly do the walls blend with the crags upon which they stand. It is worth while going a short distance up the hill past the inn at Pont Trapp for the prospect there afforded of the almost precipitous crags below the castle. On three sides of the rock, which is 300 feet high, they stand up like cliffs upon a sea coast. (*Permission to view the Castle will be given at the farmhouse near the ruins. There is no charge.*) On the only accessible side the approach to the castle is commanded by two towers. On the south side, near a short flight of steps, is an iron gate guarding a passage, partly built and partly bored through the solid rock for 150 feet. Near the farther end is a small well, from which it is said the castle was supplied in times of siege. The amount of water it yields is very small. A candle or cycle lamp should be taken by visitors who desire to see the well. The prospect from the rock embraces the Carmarthenshire Van and other Black Mountains towards the south-east; Carmarthen Bay, in the south; and the Preceley Mountains towards the north-west. Nothing certain is known of the history of the castle, which appears to date from the reign of Richard II. According to an ancient manuscript in the British Museum, the site held the stronghold of Urien, Lord of Is-Cenen, one of the knights of Arthur's Round Table. Among the ruins have been found relics of men who lived upon the spot long before the Normans obtained possession of the country.

About 1½ miles south of the Castle is a cavern, well worth seeing, called **Llygad Llwchwr,** Eye of the Loughor. From it the River Loughor issues with great violence.

To reach the cavern from the Castle farm, turn to the left, pass through the yard and down a path to another farm. Pass through its yard and follow a steep path to the Cennen. Cross the stream and from the top of the steep southern bank go to a lane near a third farm. There turn to the right. Enter the second field and strike across it diagonally towards the left. Presently a limekiln comes in sight. Then make for that. The cavern is a little below it.

To Golden Grove,

near Golden Grove Station, about 3 miles south-west of Llandilo. **Golden Grove** has been a notable place for many centuries. During the last three or four it has been the seat of the Earls of Cawdor. The present mansion is modern. That which it superseded stood at the bottom of the hill. During the Civil War it was visited by Oliver Cromwell on his way to Pembroke. He hoped to seize the Earl of Carberry, a conspicuous Royalist and the then owner of the estate, but his lordship had gone into hiding, and the Countess, with the best grace she could command, had to entertain the

pursuer of her husband. Jeremy Taylor, sometime chaplain to Charles I., found his way to Golden Grove after the siege of Cardigan, where he was made prisoner. He acted as domestic chaplain to the Earl, taught a school in a neighbouring village, and wrote some of his works in this pleasant retreat (*see* p. 23).

Nearly opposite to Golden Grove on the opposite side of the river, 4½ miles from Llandilo by the Carmarthen road, is **Grongar Hill,** an eminence remarkable for the beautiful prospect from it. Burke said of the spot, "No place do I remember in which the combination of water, wood, mountain and ruin assume such exquisite variety," and its praise was sung by the poet Dyer, who was born in 1700 at Aberglasney, near the foot of the hill. The spot where the poem was composed is about 4 miles from Llandilo, where the road, after skirting the bounds of Golden Grove, drops into the Vale of Towy. The hill was the site of a Roman camp.

To Dryslwyn Castle.

On the north side of the Towy, about 5 miles west from Llandilo. The castle is now represented by fragments of walls and a part of a tower. While it was being besieged in the reign of Edward I., unskilful mining brought down one of its towers upon a party of the besiegers, causing the death of many, including Lord Stafford and other persons of note. In Dyer's days the sides of the hill on which the ruins stand were clothed with "waving wood." Now there are seen only short turf and patches of bare rock, but the summit still affords one of the most delightful views in all the charming valley. Dryslwyn Station is but a short distance from the foot of the hill, and from Grongar Hill Camp the ruins can be reached in about half an hour by way of the farm road on the east side of the hill.

LLANDOVERY.

Distances.—By rail—Carmarthen, 26 miles; Llandrindod Wells, 27½; Llandilo 11½. By road—(12 upper, 13 lower); Swansea, 36.
Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.
Population.—About 2,000.

"A small but beautiful town," is George Borrow's brief description of Llandovery. Although it has only a couple of main streets and a couple of thousand inhabitants, it is "the trading mart of a large agricultural district," and possesses one of the chief public schools of Wales.

The word "Llandovery" is a corruption of the Welsh equivalent of the "Church among the Waters," a most appropriate name for the town, as the place is situated

between the Towy and its main feeder, the Bran, while the Gwderig and other streams are in the immediate vicinity. On a knoll, approached through the yard of the Castle Hotel, is a small fragment of the **Castle** which once dominated the district around Llandovery. It was not a large building. It is said to have been erected by the Normans about the year 1100, and almost immediately to have been taken by the Welsh, who retained possession until the time of Edward I.

There are two substantial churches, but neither is of special architectural interest. The principal one is **Llandingat,** at the south end of the town. In its burial-ground is the grave of the celebrated *Rhys Pritchard,* a native of Llandovery, who became vicar of the parish in 1602 and gained fame by his preaching powers and as the author of the hymns forming the contents of *Canwyll y Cymry,* or *The Welshman's Candle,* a book that is said to have done more good in Wales than any other except the Bible. The hymns were composed and set to music for use at musical gatherings, which were held in the church, and were intended to be substitutes for the amusements to which the Welsh were too prone. The idea caught the popular fancy and was eagerly adopted throughout the Principality. A good account of Rhys Pritchard will be found in Borrow's *Wild Wales,* chapter xcvii.

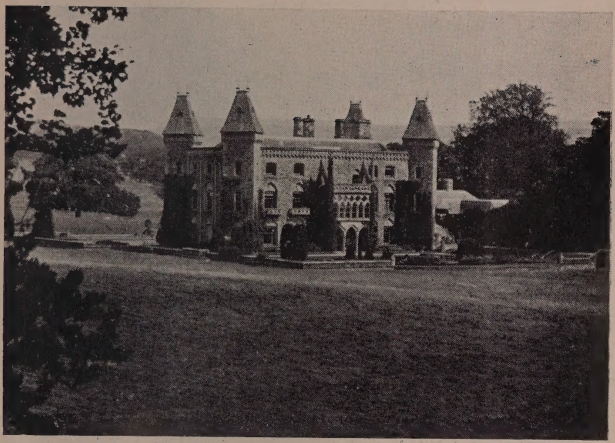
EXCURSIONS FROM LLANDOVERY.

Along the Trecastle Old Road.

Trecastle, now a quiet little village, was formerly a place of some importance, by reason of its position on what was the mail route between London and Carmarthen. It is situated 9 miles to the east of Llandovery on the bank of the Usk, and on the Llandovery-Brecon road at a point where it is met by the Trecastle Old Road and other roads. The old road between it and Llandovery runs over high ground, and affords some lovely views.

The Ascent of the Carmarthen Van (i.e. Beacon).

The only mountains of South Wales which have a greater height than the **Carmarthen Van** (2,632 feet) are the Brecon Beacons. A few hundred feet below the summit are lakes famed for their trout. Enthusiastic anglers who try to lessen the number of the fish occasionally camp on the mountain-side. The *nearest inn,* a very humble one, is at Llanddausant, near the foot of the mountain. The *nearest railway station*



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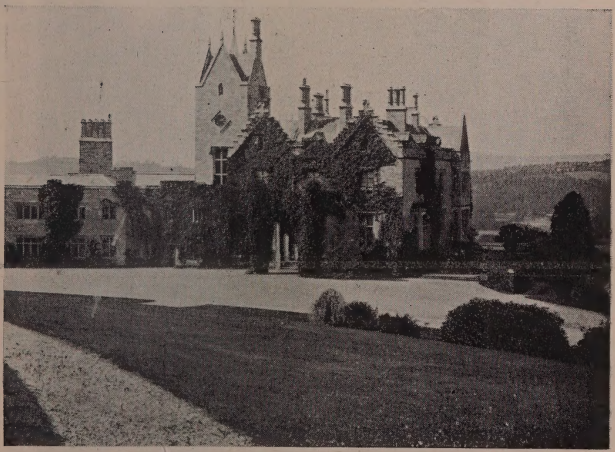
DYNEVOR CASTLE.



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GOLDEN GROVE.

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THE WYE AT BUILTH.

is Penwyllt, on the line from Brecon to Neath or Swansea (*see* p. 37).

The **Shortest Route from Llandovery** is *viâ* Myddfai (*muthva*), 4 miles, and Llanddausant, 8 miles, to Blaenau farm, 9 miles. The road as far as Myddfai is very fair, but the remainder of the route is mainly along winding lanes containing steep pitches, and is very rough for carriages. Llandovery is left by the Brecon road and then just beyond the town you turn to the right and cross the Gwderig stream. Less than half a mile farther is a fork at which you keep to the right and then go straight ahead to the village of **Myddfai.** Beyond the church turn to the left. A mile farther, at Sarnau farm, bear to the right. The next points on the road are Rhbled farm, half a mile, and Pen-y-Rhiw, a good half mile farther. Beyond the latter, cross a tiny stream. After ascending from it bend to the left, take the right branch at the next fork and then you soon reach the Llangadock-Trecastle road, coming out upon it opposite a chapel. In front are Llanddausant Church and the Van, on the farther side of a hollow. Go to the right for about 30 yards, and there pass through a gate to a track which leads down to a dell, from which there is a steep ascent to **Llanddausant.** Thence the route follows the road eastward for about a mile to Blaenau farm where a steep climb begins. The lake that will be seen on the side of the mountain must be kept on the left, and 2 miles from Blaenau the ridge will be gained at a point 2 miles to the west of the highest peak.

Viâ **Llangadock.** This is a station half-way between Llandovery and Llandilo. From it there is a fair carriage road to Blaenau farm, 8½ miles, and conveyances can be hired at the hotel. The latter part of the route commands good views of the range.

To Ystradffin (*ustradfeen*),

twelve miles north of Llandovery. This is certainly the most delightful of the excursions from the "Church among the Waters." The outward route should be along the road on the eastern side of the river, on account of the superiority of the views there obtained. It runs northward from the centre of the town. At the end of half a mile it passes under the railway and a long mile farther reaches the bridge of **Dolauhirion,** a light, graceful structure that adds a charm to the landscape. We do not cross the bridge, but still keep the river on our left. At the end of two miles from the first bridge we reach a second carrying the road which goes to Cilycwm, about a couple of miles to the north-west. Then we climb the spur of a hill, and on the farther side we suddenly have before us a most magnificent view over a couple of miles

of the Towy Valley. About 4 miles from the second bridge we reach the inn at **Nant-y-Mwyn.** Two miles farther the Cilycwm road crosses the stream by a ford, and the valley begins to contract. Steep hills draw closer together, cultivation diminishes, and finally ceases. At a wooded knoll, called **Dinas,** the river goes to the left and the road to the right, but they soon approach one another again, near the farmhouse of **Ystradffin.**

Half a mile from the farm, in the side of Dinas, is **Twm Shon Catti's Cave.** It has so narrow an entrance that a stranger is not likely to find it without local guidance. It owes its name to the tradition that it was a resort of Tom Jones, the "Wild Wag of Wales," of whom stories will be found in Borrow's *Wild Wales* (chaps. xcii. and xciii.).

A quarter of a mile beyond the farm is the Chapel of Ystradffin, and the road becomes little more than a cart-track. Less than a mile farther is Bwlch-y-ffin farm, where a track through a gap in the hills on the left very soon leads to a most charming view-point.

The return to Llandovery can be varied by crossing to the west side of the Towy, at the ford noted above, passing through the village of **Cilycwm,** and returning to the east side of the river by the stone bridge about 2 miles from the town.

To Cayo,

about 12 miles from Llandovery on the Lampeter Road. The route lies through the pretty village of **Llanwrda,** and along the winding glen of Cwmdwr, the Dulas stream being crossed and recrossed several times. Cayo and its neighbourhood are full of historic interest. At a place called **Maes-llan-wrthwl** a great battle is said to have been fought between the Romans and Britons. The Roman commander fell. His two monumental stones, mentioned in Gibson's Camden, are now to be seen at Pant-y-polion. The neighbourhood contains several tumuli; and Roman bricks are frequently discovered in turning the soil. Tradition assigns this spot as the site of a Roman city. Probably the only town that ever existed here was composed of the houses of those engaged in the mines which the Romans worked in the parish. The remains of an aqueduct, constructed with immense labour to convey the waters of the Cothi to the excavations, to wash away the dross from the ore, are still to be seen. Many Roman ornaments have been dug up, including a golden torque, bearing a curiously wrought figure of a serpent, another with the figure of a dolphin, and an amethyst with a valuable antique of Diana. In the year 1762 three thousand Roman medals were discovered.

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TENBY.

General Information.

Situation.—On a peninsula on the western shore of Carmarthen Bay, within a few miles of Milford Haven.

Approach.—From London (Paddington) by Great Western Railway (main line to Whitland Junction and thence by short branch line). From the Midlands or Northern Counties of England by the London and North-Western Railway through Shrewsbury to the Great Western line at Carmarthen.

By steamer from Bristol, Ilfracombe, Weston-super-Mare, Newport, Cardiff, and Swansea.

Angling and Sea-Fishing.—The principal trout streams in the neighbourhood are at Lampeter Velfrey, 3 miles from Narberth Station; at Llawhaden, 3½ miles from Narberth, and at Ford, 7 miles from Haverfordwest.

Tenby Bay abounds with fish, including bass, dubs, gurnards, mackerel, plaice, pollock, soles, and whiting. Good sport is obtained from boats and from the Royal Victoria Pier, the site of a fishing competition every Wednesday during the season. Fishing tickets (daily), 1*d*. Admission to pier, 1*d*.

Prawns are taken in the pools along the shore; crabs and lobsters near Giltar, Monkstone, and Waterwynch.

Annual Fixtures—Hunt Week and Race Week, both in January, when there are dramatic performances, fancy dress and other balls, golf and Badminton tournaments. Flower show in June or July. Regatta in August. Tennis tournament in August. St. Margaret's Fair held the first week in August under a charter granted by Queen Elizabeth. The opening ceremony is conducted by the Mayor in great state at noon, on the last day of July.

Apartments.—Lodging-houses, both large and small, are numerous. The most fashionable are in Croft Terrace and the Esplanade. Large houses commanding sea-views are in Belmont, the Norton, Julian Terrace, Rock Terrace, part of High Street and Belle Vue. Other large houses are in Julian Street, St. Catharine's Terrace, and Victoria Street.

Assembly Rooms and Winter Gardens.—Royal Assembly Rooms in White Lion Street. The De Valence Gardens, near the North Shore, offer a summer and winter promenade.

Bands.—Musical performances are given daily during the season in front of the principal hotels, on the North and South Sands, on the Castle Hill, and on the Victoria Pier on the occasion of a fishing competition.

Banks.—*National and Provincial*, Tudor Square; *London and Provincial*, High Street. *Lloyds*, Tudor Square.

Bathing.—The sea-bathing is excellent, especially from the South Sands. Between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. machines must be used between the North Cliff Point and Bacon's Hole (South Sands). Swimmers must beware of a strong off-shore current on the south shore when the sea surrounds St. Catherine's Rock. There are no currents on the north shore.

Boating.—Fast sailing-boats, rowing-boats of various sizes and canoes may be hired at reasonable prices.

Churches and Chapels, with hours of Sunday services :—

Parish Church, 8.0, 11.0, 3.30, and 6.0.
New Hedges School Church, 11.0.
St. Julian's Chapel, Quay, 6.0.
Congregational, Warren Street—11.0 and 6.0.

Wesleyan, Warren Street, 11.0 and 6.0.
Baptist, Deer Park—11.0 and 6.0.
Presbyterian, Lower Frog Street—11.0, and 6.0.
Roman Catholic, South Cliff—8.0, 10.30, and 6.0.
Penally Church—11.0 and 6.0.
Gumfreston Church—11.0 and 6.30.
St. Florence Church—10.30 and 6.30.
St. Issell's Church—11.0 and 6.0.
Manorbier Church—11.0 and 6.30.

Clubs.—*The Tenby and County*, housed in a fine building on the Croft. Contains reading, billiard, card and smoking rooms. Visitors are admitted, on certain conditions, on application to the Secretary.
Conservative Club, High Street. *Liberal Club*, Cresswell Street.

Concerts, etc.—Concerts and dramatic performances are given daily throughout the season. The Tenby Choral Society gives high-class concerts, and there are many other excellent entertainments during winter.

Cottage Hospital.—Situated on the western side of the town.

Cricket.—The *Tenby Cricket Club* has a good ground in the Sports Field, Heywood Lane.

Croquet.—There is a lawn in the grounds of the Tenby Lawn Tennis Club.

Distances.—

By Rail.	MILES.	*By Rail.*	MILES.
London (Paddington) *viâ* Severn Tunnel	250	Cardiff	104
Birmingham	224	Liverpool	192
Bristol	146	Manchester	198

By Road.	MILES.	*By Road.*	MILES.
Amroth	7	Milford Haven	12
Caldy (*boat*)	2½	Narberth	10
Carew Castle	6½	Penally	1½
Freshwater East	10	Pembroke	10
Giltar	1½	Pembroke Dock	12
Gumfreston	2	St. Issell's	4½
Lamphey	8	St. Florence	4½
Llawhaden Castle, etc.	12	Saundersfoot	3
Lydstep Caverns	4½	Stack Rocks	20
Manorbier	6	Waterwynch	1

Drainage and Sanitation.—Excellent. Water carriage throughout the town and daily collection of house refuse.

Drives.—Well-appointed brakes run daily to places of interest.

Educational.—The *County Intermediate School* and *St. Andrew's*, a first-class private school, preparatory for public schools or the navy.

Golf.—There is an eighteen-hole course, about half a mile from the station, on the Burrows, to the west of the South Sands, with a pavilion at the foot of Black Rock. The hazards and bunkers consist of sandhills, bent grass, and sandpits. The greens are good. Visitors are charged 1*s.* 6*d.* a day, 7*s.* 6*d.* a week, 15*s.* a month.

Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.

Hunting.—Mr. H. Seymour Allen's hounds meet regularly in the neighbourhood of Tenby. Twice a year the "Pembrokeshire," a subscription pack, meet in the town, and frequently within easy access of it. Otter hounds also meet within easy reach of the town.

Lawn Tennis.—The *Tenby Lawn Tennis Club* has several courts near Heywood Lane. Visitors are admitted. A tournament is held in August. The grounds contain large pavilions.

Libraries and Reading Rooms.—There is no public free library, but circulating libraries abound. There are reading-rooms at the clubs and at Arnett's Library opposite the church, and scientific books can be consulted at the Museum.

Local Government.—By a Town Council consisting of four aldermen and twelve councillors.

M. Allen,] [*Tenby.*

TENBY, FROM HIGH STREET.

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SOUTH SANDS, TENBY.

Museum.—In a portion of the Castle on Castle Hill. The objects illustrate the history and natural history of the district and the County of Pembroke generally. Scientific books may be consulted on application to the custodian.

Newspapers.—The *Tenby Observer and Weekly List of Visitors* every Thursday afternoon, price, 1*d*. The *Tenby and County News and Visitors' List*, every Wednesday morning, price 1*d*.

Omnibuses from the hotels meet all trains.

Open Spaces.—The *South Cliff Garden*, behind the Esplanade, is open to resident subscribers and their visitors.

Pier.—The Royal Victoria Pier, opened in 1899, cost upwards of £11,000. Admission 1*d*.

Population.—About 4,500.

Postal.—Head Office in Tudor Square nearly opposite the church. Open on week-days from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The chief despatch is at 6 p.m. (for the North, about 4 p.m.). On week-days there are three deliveries; on Sundays one.

Railway Station.—In Warren Street, continued by White Lion Street to the North Shore and the principal hotels.

Steamer Excursions.—Large steamers from Bristol call during the summer and convey passengers to the Stack Rocks, Ilfracombe, Weston-super-Mare, etc. Landing and embarking can take place at the Victoria Pier at any state of the tide.

Water Supply.—There is an abundant supply of water from two very pure sources. It is kept at full pressure day and night.

TENBY is situated on a long narrow promontory on the western side of Carmarthen Bay. The site is well-nigh unique. As dear old Leland wrote, four centuries ago, Tenby stands on a "main Rokke, but not very hy, and is so gulfed about by the Severn Se, that at the ful Se, almost the third part of the Toun is in closèd with water."

The sides of the peninsula are limestone cliffs, in which paths have been constructed to afford convenient passage between the esplanade and the beach. At the extremity of the peninsula is the Castle Hill, with the Victoria Pier extending from it. On one side are the Harbour and the North Sands, on the other side are the South Sands, so that a sheltered spot on the margin of the sea can be found whatever wind is blowing; and while one beach attracts by its agreeable coolness in the height of summer, the other has a genial air that is welcome when a low temperature is general.

The peninsular site has another advantage. It adds greatly to the variety of aspect. To pass from one side to the other is as great a change as going from one place to another, so entirely different is the prospect, and this is by no means a minor consideration, especially for those who cannot enjoy long excursions. From the high ground the eye can trace the broken shore of Carmarthen Bay from Worms Head, on the east, to St. Gowan's Head, on the west, and far away

over the water to the south-east rises the high ground of North Devon.

The picturesqueness of the sea-front, the twin beaches, the rocks and the sands, the marvellous colour of the water, ranging from the deepest blue to the most delicate green, the wealth of sunshine, the freshness of the air, all have their part in making visitors love the little town.

"One of the prettiest, quietest, and in all respects the most attractive of the sea-bathing towns that adorn the coasts of England and Wales," wrote Mr. and Mrs. Hall some half century ago, and later visitors have said the same. "If Tenby be not Queen of Welsh watering-places, she must be crowned Empress," declared another writer. "It is far better known," writes Mr. A. G. Bradley, in his *Highways and Byways*, "than any other place in South-west Wales, and one can well understand its popularity, for it is quite out of the commonplace among seaside resorts and full of character. A rocky promontory, on which the ruined castle stands, cuts it into two distinct bays. There are beautiful sands, overhung by a leafy ridge, on whose crest the town stands, commanding to the east and to the west glorious views of the wild coast of Pembrokeshire. Its present reputation is that of a bright and important watering-place, with a considerable residential population, good golf links and excellent bathing, and it requires the grim fragment of the castle rock to remind one that the place played an important part in Welsh history since time began, and ethnologically is a stronghold of the Anglo-Flemish breed and speech."

Mr. Timmins, in his captivating work on the *Nooks and Corners of Pembrokeshire*, thus describes a summer evening in "Tenby of the King":—"Towards sundown a miniature fleet of trawlers sweeps gracefully around the Castle Hill, looking for all the world like a flight of brilliant butterflies; their russet sails glowing in the warm light of the sun's declining rays with every hue, from gold to ruddy purple, recalling memories of gorgeous scenes on far-away Venetian lagoons."

To many who may think of visiting Tenby,

The Climate,

is of more importance than the picturesqueness of the site. Figures and weighty opinions show that, in this respect,

Tenby is a favoured spot. "It is one of the best climates in England for the general run of invalids," says Walsh, in his *Manual of Domestic Medicine.* "Unequalled for its beauty and its climate," is Dr. Golding Bird's dictum respecting Tenby, while Dr. Dyster, after observing the meteorological conditions for many years, declared that "The climate of this place has few, if any, rivals, and, I believe, no superior in England."

Tenby particularly rejoices in being one of the sunniest spots in Britain, especially during the months that in most places are filled with dull days. As the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough has said, "Meteorological reports extending over a long series of years, show in figures which cannot be questioned that in the first and last quarters of the year Tenby has nearly, if not quite, the highest bright sunshine record in the kingdom. This alone should make it popular as a winter residence."

The lack of extremes is another most valuable feature of the climate of Tenby. The town is warmer in the winter months than Brighton, Eastbourne, Bournemouth, and Hastings, while in the summer it is a few degrees cooler. There is scarcely a day in winter when the most delicate invalid cannot venture out. Frost and snow are always very rare. Only eight times during the year 1906 did the thermometer fall below freezing-point, and then only in the night-time. Numbers of what are generally considered greenhouse plants flourish in the open air through successive winters. Fuchsias attain great size. Specimens may be found with a stem as thick as a man's arm. On Caldy Island, in the bay, there is a fuchsia hedge extending some hundreds of feet by the roadside, and so old that no one can remember when it was planted.

The rainfall is much less than that of many other western towns. It averages 35 inches, the same as Liverpool, as compared with 24 at London, 30 at Dover, and 40 at Plymouth. But much of the rain which Tenby receives falls at night, and no matter how heavy it may be, it very quickly disappears. Frequently dust is blowing in the afternoon after a torrent of rain in the morning.

The Annals of the Town.

Tenby was a place of importance in very early times, and continued to be of consequence, both as a port and a military post until the time of Elizabeth.

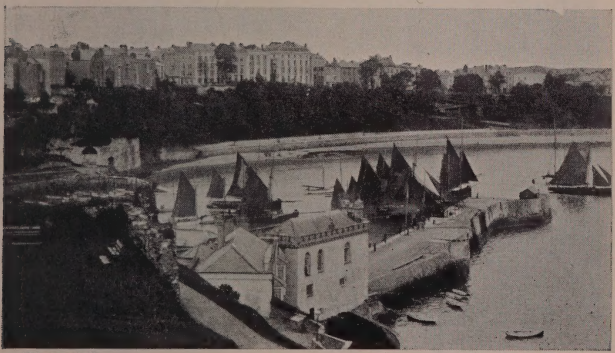
From the discovery of numerous Roman coins in and around the town, it is assumed that the site of Tenby was a Roman station. That probably supplanted the habitations of a more primitive people, for all along the cliffs of Pembrokeshire relics of a prehistoric race have been discovered. There are indications that some of the marauding Norsemen who visited Pembrokeshire in search of plunder, settled in the land, and tradition asserts that a party, attracted by the abundance of fish in the bay, established themselves where Tenby now stands, that the settlement became known as Deniby or Dane-town, and afterwards, among the Celtic inhabitants of the neighbourhood, as Dynbych-y-Pyscod, "the Little Town of Fish."

The site was colonized by the Flemish and English settlers who founded "Little England beyond Wales," and local tradition credits the Flemings with establishing two wool-factories in the town. The first historical reference to the place occurs in connection with the destruction of the castle and the slaughter of the garrison in 1150 by the Welsh, because the stronghold sheltered some Flemings who had attacked a Welsh prince while he was hunting near Saundersfoot. Between thirty and forty years later, the Welsh "by plain force won the town and burned it to ashes."

In the year 1457, which happened to be the year in which Henry VII. was born in the neighbouring town of Pembroke, the Earl of Pembroke assisted the inhabitants of Tenby to rebuild and strengthen the walls of their town. They were still further strengthened, as was also the castle, against the coming of the Spanish Armada, and the place was then one of the principal fortresses in South Wales.

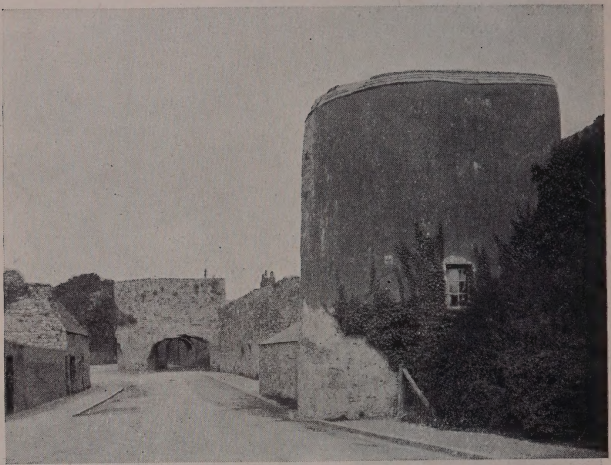
The Tudor period was probably the time of Tenby's greatest importance and prosperity. In the days of the Stuarts it lost its trade and manufactures. During the Civil War it was held for the king, until a three days' siege and bombardment transferred its possession to the forces of the Parliament. A little later, mutineers held it for a few days against the Parliament, and probably the castle was soon afterwards dismantled.

The decay of Tenby continued until, in the early years of the last century, almost the whole town was in ruins. Its condition then is shown in Norris's picture in the local museum. A little later, seaside places began to grow in favour with those who were in a position to gratify a desire for change



Photos by] [*M. Allen, Tenby.*

THE NORTH BAY, TENBY.



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TOWN WALL AND FIVE ARCHES, TENBY.

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH, TENBY.

of air and scene, and as the merits of Tenby as a holiday resort began to be recognized, the town entered upon a new era of prosperity.

Through the Town.

Tenby is a bright, clean-looking town. It has been largely rebuilt since the days of its depression. The buildings are mostly of stone, and after the manner of the country many have received a wash of colour. A creamy white is the most common tint, but very effective use has been made of red, a delicate shade of green, and other hues. Viewed from a distance the patches of colour fronting the north sands and the harbour, and the old-world air that hangs about the latter, give the place quite a foreign appearance.

The railway station is on the west side of the town. Almost due east of it is the Castle Hill, and about midway between the two are the business portions of the town and the principal hotels.

From the station, then, we go eastward along Warren Street, and almost at once have on our left the **Wesleyan Chapel,** a building that will accommodate nearly 600 worshippers. The Wesleyans are the oldest body of nonconformists in the town. The first Wesleyan sermon in Tenby was preached at the market cross in 1761, by Thomas Taylor, one of Wesley's lay readers. His advent would seem to have been peculiarly repugnant to the Mayor, who is said to have instigated a disturbance which served as a pretext for the reading of the Riot Act, and the arrest of the evangelist, who was strictly charged by the Justices to preach no more in the town, but the injunction was immediately disregarded. John Wesley was in Tenby in 1763 and again in 1784. Of the first occasion, he says, "We reached Tenby about eleven o'clock; the rain then ceased, and I preached at the Cross to a congregation gathered from many miles around."

The record of the second visit is: "We reached Tenby soon after one. In the evening I preached in the street to a large congregation of rich and poor, all quiet and attentive."

About midway in Warren Street we pass *Griffith's Temperance Hotel,* and at the eastern end of the street are abreast of a fine block of buildings comprising the **Congregational Church,** which can seat between 800 and 900 persons.

The site of these buildings is at an important junction.

To the left is Greenhill Road, which extends to the railway, where it meets thoroughfares on the western side of the line. Near the Warren Street end is the **Baptist Chapel,** built in 1885 and having accommodation for 650 persons. To the right of Warren Street is the **South Parade,** which is continued by St. Florence Parade to the **Esplanade** overlooking the South Sands. All along the eastern side of the parades is a portion of the **Town Walls** which enclosed old Tenby, while the broad path overshadowed by elms occupies the site of the moat.

About 1540 Leland wrote : " The toun is strongeli waullid and well gatted, everi gate having his Port-cullis *ex solido ferro.*" In his day there were probably nearly twenty towers and five gateways. The walls are generally said to have been built by William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, who died in 1296, and was half-brother to Henry III., but there is reason to believe that they were not erected until later, as the earliest known historical reference to them relates to the grant made to the town in 1328 by Edward III., of certain dues for seven years to help the inhabitants to enclose their town and build a quay. In 1457 Jasper Tudor, father of Henry VII., assisted the inhabitants to carry out the extensive repairs that had become necessary. As recorded on a tablet near the south-west gate, repairs were again effected when the Spanish Armada was expected, and there were reparations also in 1644. The walls ran from a small watch-tower still standing on the cliffs above the South Sands, to a similar tower that was above the North Bay. A parapet walk along the walls gave access to the upper loops and embrasures, and formed a means of communication between the bastions. It was maintained as a public footpath until about 1830.

At the opening into St. George's Street, about midway between Warren Street and the Esplanade, is one of the most interesting relics of the town's defences. It is the **South-west Gateway,** locally known as the Five Arches. Of these openings, three are modern. The Gateway is supposed to have been erected in the fifteenth century. The northern archway was the original portcullis gateway, and it still has the grooves through which the gate was raised or lowered. Sir J. Banks, the famous botanist, visited Tenby in 1767 and made in his diary the following note respecting this structure :—

"The gate seems well constructed for defence, as there is one gate into the tower and another into the town; so that when the tower gate is forced, that of the town is still to be attacked, and by no more men than can stand in the tower, where they must be very subject to the offensive weapons of the besieged."

The bastion narrowly escaped destruction in 1873, and was only spared through the efforts made by a public-spirited resident who appealed to the Court of Chancery and obtained an injunction against the local Goths and Vandals. His praiseworthy action is recorded on a tablet let into the wall of the old building.

Opposite the Five Arches is the **Roman Catholic Church** of the Holy Rood and St. Teilo, which was opened in 1893. The crucifix over the high altar is of pre-Reformation date. It was formerly in the Priory Church of Brecon. The Reliquary contains a piece of wood that is said to have formed part of the true cross. The rood in front of the chancel is a fine piece of work. There are figures of the Virgin Mary and St. John. On one side is a statue of the Sacred Heart; on the other is a statue of St. Joseph.

Nearly opposite the bastion is a shop which tradition avers was the Lazar House, or Hospital for Lepers. It is said to be the oldest house in the town, although photographers claim that distinction for another ancient dwelling. At the back of the supposed Lazar House are two round chimneys considered by that eminent antiquary, Mr. Loftus Brock, as the oldest extant specimens of their kind. In his opinion the building might have been erected in the twelfth century, or the early part of the thirteenth.

Warren Street is continued seaward by White Lion Street. On the north side are the **Assembly Rooms,** and along the south side is a portion of the Town Wall. The wall comes to an end at a thoroughfare which, under the names of Upper Frog Street and Lower Frog Street, runs to the south shore. Just within it is the **De Valence Garden,** in which musical and dramatic entertainments are given. The garden contains a covered promenade, a pavilion with seats for 500 or 600 persons, cloak-rooms, etc., and an open area laid out with walks and flower-beds. From this garden the wall can be conveniently studied. Eight feet from the ground is a line of flagstones and corbels marking the top of the original wall.

At the top of White Lion Street are the *Royal Gate House Hotel,* on the left, and the *Royal Lion Hotel,* on the right.

The latter building occupies the site of the North Gate, which was removed in 1781.

To the right is High Street. To the left is the thoroughfare called the Norton, and before us is the **North Shore,** a scene of loveliness that makes many ask with Cliffe, "What can be more picturesque in form or in colour than the gladsome bay between the deep purple headland of Monkstone and the rocky point of the Castle Hill, set in a green sea of delicious purity?"

Monkstone Point is the headland a couple of miles towards the north (the left), separating Tenby Roads from Saundersfoot Bay. Along the top of the sea-wall runs a pleasant walk, furnished with seats, and from the Norton a broad path leads to the sands, which extend from the Harbour to North Cliff Point. About the middle of the beach is a huge block of millstone grit called the **Goscar,** a name that may have been given to it by one of the Norsemen who are said to have made the shore of the bay their home (p. 116).

The Norton soon branches. The left-hand fork keeps the name and goes towards the Cemetery and the Narberth Road to Saundersfoot; while the right branch, called the Croft, running along the sea-front, is the site of the **Tenby and County Club,** and of some of the best residences in the town.

Turning to the right at the Royal Lion Hotel, we pass the *Peerless Private Hotel,* commanding a magnificent prospect, the *Coburg Hotel,* equally well situated, and then, continuing along High Street, for a time we lose sight of the sea. On our right we have the **Market** and **Town Hall.** The former is open daily, but Saturday is the principal day. Then we come, in the middle of the town, to

The Parish Church,

dedicated to St. Mary, and worthy of attention, to quote Professor Freeman, "both on account of its architectural features and by reason of its rich store of monumental antiquities." With the exception of St. David's Cathedral, it is the largest church in Pembrokeshire. The extreme length is 145 feet; the greatest breadth, 80 feet, and it is capable of seating 1,500 persons.

The Church is of the Early English and Perpendicular styles. The latter predominates, for the edifice dates from 1245, when it was rebuilt. The original church is supposed

PEMBROKE
English Miles
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
30 Fathoms Line
Port Cardigan
Mount
Aberporth
Kemmaes Hd.
Blaenporth
CARDIGAN
St Dogmaels
Llangoedmore
Moylgrove
Llechryd
Monnington
Kilgerran
Llantood
Bridell
Strumble Head
Carreg onen B.
PEMBROKE
Penbrush Pt.
Dinas Hd.
Dinas
Bayvil
Nevern
NEWPORT
Llanllawer
Llanychaiarn
Llanstinan
Llanllawer
FISHGUARD
FISHGUARD BAY
NEWPORT BAY
Goodwick
Manorowen
Granston
Jordanston
Penclegyr Pt.
Carregwilan Pt.
Llanwnda
Llanychaiarn
Llanfair-nant-y-Gof
Morvil
Puncheston
Castle Morris
Ledgerston
Castle Newydd
Castle-bythe
Llanfihangel Nevern
Whitechurch
Llanfair Nantgwyn
Clydey
Pwll-crochan B.
St. Nicholas
Pen Morfa
Porth Gain Harb.
Penmorfa
Trevine
Mathry
Llanhowel
Llanfair-nant-y-Gof
Llan-y-chaer
Tom Ieuan
Tonfanau
Tudur-us
Cilgwyn
Pont bryn beirion
Foel-us
Grymmych Arms Sta.
Cross Inn
Glogue Sta.
Lead Mines
Llanfyrnach
Penrhos galar Sta.
Eglwyswrw
Crymych
Foel Arch
Cwm Gwaun
Cwm Cerwyn
Preceiow Iron Ore
Foelwen
Cefn
Llanllawer
Llanychaiarn
Llanstinan
Llanfair-nant-y-Gof
Morvil
Puncheston
Castle Morris
Ledgerston
Castle Newydd
Castle-bythe
Mynydd Preceiow
Penclegyr Pt.
Carregwilan Pt.
Llanllawer
Llanychaiarn
Llanstinan
Llanfair-nant-y-Gof
Morvil
Puncheston
Castle Morris
Ledgerston
Castle Newydd
Castle-bythe
Mynydd Preceiow
Monach-logdan
Maenclochog
Llandilo
Llangolman
Llanglydwen
Egwlys-fair a Churig
Llanboidy
Gilfachwen
Llandissilio West
Llandissilio
Llan-y-cefn
Henllan Amgoed
Llanfallteg
Llanginning
Llandyssilio
Llandyssilio West
Llandissilio
Llan-y-cefn
Henllan Amgoed
Llanfallteg
Llanginning
Llandyssilio
Llandiss

to have been rebuilt by the Normans about 1090. The building consists of a nave, chancel, north and south aisles, and a lofty embattled tower, containing a peal of eight bells and surmounted by an octagonal spire, of which the topmost point is 152 feet from the ground. The spire forms a notable landmark for mariners. The only other remarkable external feature is the west doorway. It is the remnant of a great cruciform porch built in 1490. It has been described by an eminent antiquary as "most uncommon, being so made out by the lines of the headway that although the first or inner sweep of the arch is an inverted sweep or ogee, yet the succeeding lines, by a very curious transition, revert into a treble sweep with a pointed one in the centre."

A very effective feature of the interior is a flight of eleven steps at the eastern end. The west windows are instanced by Professor Freeman as particularly fine examples of the most beautiful form of Perpendicular work, and the choir roof is described by him as "a grand specimen of the cradle form." When it was being repaired in 1842, a cannon ball, probably fired during the siege of Tenby by a Parliamentary force (p. 116), was found embedded in one of the beams.

In the roof of the nave are carvings of disputed significance. They are described in Norris's etchings of Tenby as "a group supporting our Saviour on the Cross," and in Law's *Little England beyond Wales* as "a small figure of the First Person of the Trinity, holding a crucifix between His knees, a globe at His head and feet, surrounded by four angels, those on either side carrying censers, while those above and below formerly held musical instruments."

The holy table contains the slab of the ancient high altar. Many years ago it was discovered in a mass of rubbish in the church.

The eastern end of the north aisle is **St. Nicholas' Chapel,** and the corresponding part of the south aisle is the **Chapel of St. Ann.** The organ, font, and several windows are memorials of modern residents. The chancel screen was erected in 1892. The lectern commemorates the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria.

Of the various tombs and monuments, the most beautiful are the tombs of the brothers *John and Thomas White,* in St. Ann's Chapel, the eastern end of the south aisle. They were members of a family that gave Tenby great merchants for many generations. The deceased are represented dressed as merchants, with purses at their girdles. The heads rest on peacocks; the feet on a beast probably intended for a stag. The south front of each tomb is divided into four compartments. In the first division under John is a woman, with a child behind her, praying to a mitred saint On a shield above are the White arms. In the second division

a woman and a child are praying to St. Catherine, who tramples on the devil and pierces him with a sword. In the third division a merchant with a purse at his girdle and a broad-brimmed hat hanging at his back, kneels in prayer, with five children behind him. In the fourth division are three bodies in a kind of crate, and on a cushion is an inscription calling upon those who pass by to remember that they will some day be in like case, and begging for their prayers.

In the first division on the south front of the adjacent tomb, two female figures and a child kneel before a saint. In the second division a woman and child kneel before St. John the Baptist, who points with his left hand to a lamb on a book held in his right hand. To his cloak of camel's skin is attached the head of the animal. In the third division is the figure of a kneeling man with six sons behind him. The fourth division is similar to that of the other tomb, but there is no inscription over the crate.

Thomas White was Mayor of Tenby six times from 1457 to 1481, and John seven times from 1482 to 1498. Thomas was Mayor in 1471 when the Lancastrians were overthrown at Tewkesbury. The Earl of Pembroke and Henry of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., being among those who would be safer abroad than in England and Wales, were assisted by Thomas White to leave the kingdom. Tradition affirms that they were concealed in his cellars until one of his ships could convey them to the coast of France. His house was opposite the church, on the site of that now occupied by a wine merchant.

On the north wall of St. Ann's Chapel is the kneeling effigy of *William Risam*, a merchant, in his aldermanic gown. He was mayor in 1618 and 1624. The gown was painted red, and the eyebrows blackened during a "restoration" of the church in 1842, when, unfortunately, little judgment was used. The inscription on the monument runs thus :—

"Two hundred pounds and 50 more,
Hee gave this towne, to helpe the poore ;
The use of one on cloth and coles bestowe,
For 12 decreped meane and lowe ;
Let 50 pounds to 5 be yearely lent,
The others use on burges sonnes be spent.

William Risam gave	viz.. yearly to set out
this £250 for ever gratis	2 prentices

The word "use" in the above signifies, of course, "interest."

Near the head of the effigy is an indentation in the wall caused, tradition says, by a bullet discharged by one of Cromwell's soldiers, who mistook the figure for a living man.

The oldest monument is on the east side of the north entrance. It exhibits the effigy of a woman (a widow or a nun) under a cinque-foiled canopy, and is not later than the early years of the fourteenth century. On the west side of the north entrance is a tomb with the effigy of an emaciated ecclesiastic, a form of memorial in vogue in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Going eastward along the north aisle we come to a monument erected by Thomas ap

Rees of Scotsborough, knight, to the pious memory of his wife, Margaretta Mercer, who died in childbirth, 1610, in the thirtieth year of her age, after she had lived for twelve years in closest sympathy with her husband and had borne ten children, of whom seven survived her. The deceased is represented in a recumbent position. Her husband, in plate armour, kneels at a praying-desk and their four sons and three daughters are on the base of the monument.

Opposite this monument is a large altar-tomb, generally supposed to be that of Robert Tully, Bishop of St. David's, 1460–70.

Westward of the church are slight remains of a Carmelite nunnery, called St. Mary's College, founded in 1399, and in St. George's Street, on the south side of the church, is an ancient entrance to the churchyard and the Town Hall. The room over the gateway was formerly used for meetings of the Town Council.

Continuing our route past the church, we pass into Tudor Square, containing the chief **Post Office.** Beyond that building is a narrow passage on the left leading to a flight of steps, at the foot of which is a dilapidated house said to have been erected by the Flemings. It is commonly called "the oldest house in Tenby." Tudor Square is continued by St. Julian Street, and by following that round to the left, we arrive at **St. Julian's Chapel,** on the Harbour Quay. It was opened in 1878, and is served by the clergy of the parish church. It is specially intended for the fishermen and their families. It has taken the place of a chapel of St. Julian, which stood at the end of the old stone pier, and in which, from very early times, special supplications were made for the safety and success of the fishermen. For his services, the officiating minister was entitled to a halfpenny for each man and a penny for each boat. In the latter part of the eighteenth century, disputes arose between the clergy and the fishermen, the services were discontinued, the building fell into decay, and after having been used first as a bathing-house and then as a smithy, the old chapel was pulled down in 1842.

The **Harbour,** which has been formed by the construction of a long stone pier, provides good shelter for trawlers. Tenby has had a pier from a very early date, and until the reign of Charles II., it was the only town in South Wales which possessed one. The first is said to have been maintained by the local merchants. One that was built in 1328 forms the core of the present structure.

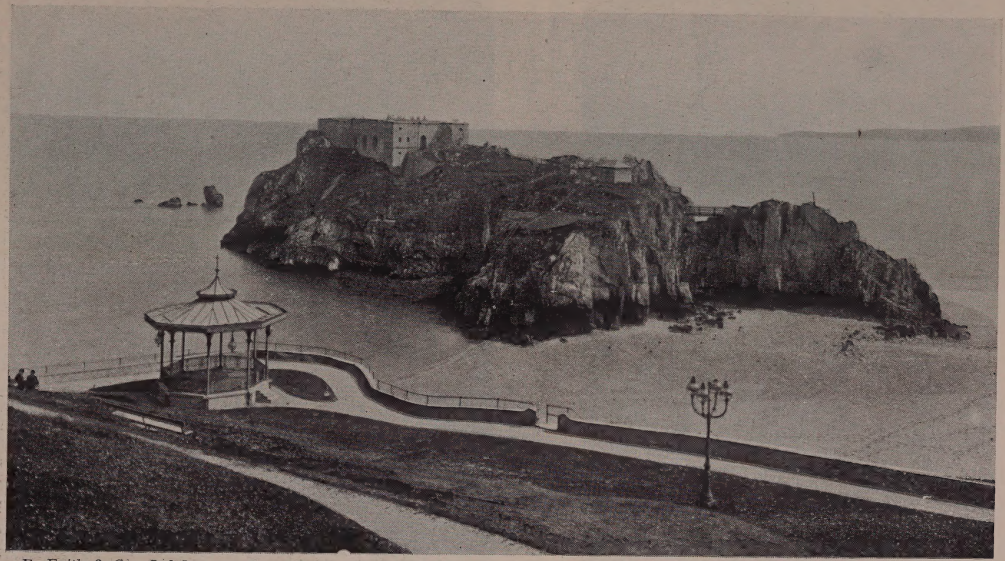
Beyond the quaint Harbour Pier is the **Royal Victoria Pier** (*admission* 1*d.*), which was opened by the Duchess of York (now the Princess of Wales) in 1899. It is 200 feet in length and cost upwards of £11,000. It has a square head on which concerts and band performances are given during the summer. The pier is a popular fishing station, and at the extremity is a roomy and convenient landing-stage, which can be used by the largest of the Bristol Channel excursion steamers at any state of the tide. Close to the pier are the new **Lifeboat House** and the launching stage, from which at all states of the tide the boat can be launched in about ten minutes from the first call. The Victoria Pier is at the foot of

The Castle Hill,

a nearly insular knoll, laid out as a public recreation ground. There are a bandstand, well-kept walks, and numerous seats from which visitors may enjoy a magnificent prospect. "To the left is the distant smoke of Llanelly; to the right is Caldy Island; and beyond, like a little cloud on the horizon, is Lundy." The remains of the castle are unimportant. They comprise the keep, part of the main entrance, and fragments of the walls. The date of the erection of the castle is uncertain. Reference has been made to its vicissitudes on p. 116. Part of the building has been converted into a **Museum** (*admission* 6*d.*). It contains a fine collection of shells, cave implements, bones, birds, geological specimens, rare prints, drawings of local interest, and books (which may be consulted on application to the caretaker). The nucleus of the exhibition was a splendid collection of prehistoric relics formed by a late Rector of Gumfreston. It included the contents of tumuli on the Ridgeway, and animal remains found in various caves.

Near the coastguard station, which is upon the hill, are several ancient cannon. The smallest of those that have been cast is a 4½ pounder measuring nearly 9 feet in length. It is probably the oldest of its kind here, and may date from the sixteenth or early seventeenth century. One measuring 10 feet in length and ornamented with a rose and crown is a 9 pounder, probably cast in the time of Queen Anne.

A very conspicuous object on the hill is the **Welsh Memorial of the Prince Consort.** It was designed and executed by



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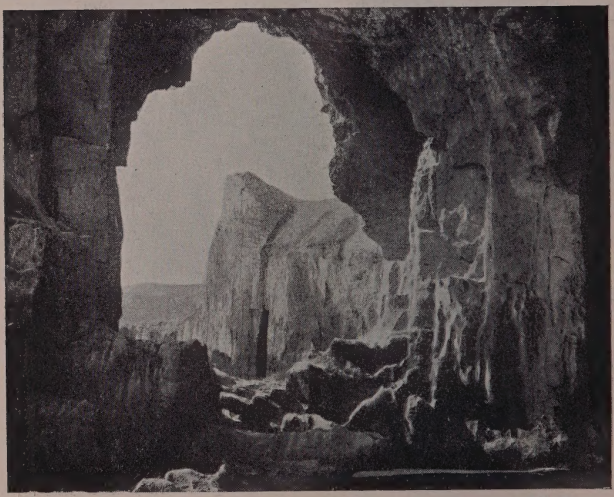
ST. CATHERINE'S ROCK, TENBY.

M. Allen,] [*Tenby.*

GOLF LINKS, PENALLY.



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LYDSTEP CAVERN.

John Evan Thomas, the eminent Welsh sculptor, cost £2,250, and was unveiled by Prince Arthur in 1865. It consists of a statue of the Prince, attired in the uniform of a Field Marshal and wearing the regalia of the Order of the Garter. The Welsh inscriptions on the pedestal signify "Albert the Good, Consort of our beloved Queen Victoria," and "The Dragon of Wales is Invincible." Near the scroll bearing the latter legend is the Red Dragon of Calwaladr and the Welsh Leek.

From the Castle Hill we look down upon

St. Catherine's Rock,

a precipitous mass, that is alternately a peninsula and an island. When the water is low, the rock is accessible on foot, but at other times it can be approached only by boat. Upon the rock is a dismantled fort, which was constructed to guard the approaches to Pembroke Dockyard. In the pools and crannies may be found such zoophytes, seaweeds and anemones as elsewhere on the British coast can be obtained only by dredging. George Eliot, in a letter to a friend, says, "St. Catherine's Rock with its caverns is our Paradise. We go there with baskets, hammers and chisels and jars and phials and come home laden with spoils. . . . We have a project of going into St. Catherine's caverns with lanterns some night when the tide is low, about eleven, for the sake of seeing the zoophytes preparing for their midnight revels."

If we leave the Castle Hill by following a path along its southern side, we pass between the Museum and the old Lifeboat House. The latter is on the sands at the foot of the hill. Tenby was made a lifeboat station in 1855, and the act has been amply justified, for times without number, almost, the local crew have been summoned to perilous duty, the rocks and shoals in the channel being a not infrequent cause of disaster to vessels in stormy weather.

Near the Museum we go through a portcullis gateway and pass a picturesque entrance to the South Sands. Then we enter St. Julian Street again, pass from it at the first opening on the left, and by bearing to the left whenever a choice of routes is offered, we quickly reach the **Esplanade,** which runs along the summit of the cliffs on the south side of the town, and contains high-class residences. At the back of these are the **South Cliff and Coronation Gardens.**

The former are maintained by private liberality for the use of residents and visitors in their vicinity. In the Coronation Gardens, high class entertainments take place every evening during the season. At the farther end of the Esplanade, we come to the **Jubilee Ground,** laid out with walks and furnished with seats in 1887.

In a commanding position on the right is the **Rectory**, while towards the left extend the **Burrows,** a great expanse of sandhills partly covered with grass, brambles, and wild flowers. They are the site of the Golf Links, and are also much frequented by visitors who are indifferent to the charms of the ancient and royal game.

The **South Sands** extend from the Castle Hill to Giltar Point, a distance of nearly 2 miles. Like the beach of the North Bay, they are remarkably free from impurities. The waves bring no river mud to either beach, and the erosion of the cliffs produces only the brightest yellow sand. Each shore is

> "A graceful curvature of golden sand
> By the ebbing tide left shining."

At the bottom of the steps at the eastern end of the Jubilee Ground is **Merlin's Cave,** the largest of the many caverns below the Esplanade, but it is now almost filled with sand. About midway between the steps here and the next farther east, is **Bacon's Hole.**

WALKS AND EXCURSIONS FROM TENBY.

To Penally.

Penally is a picturesque village, south-west of Tenby, on the slope of the eastern end of the Ridgeway, from which it overlooks the Burrows and the sea. It can be reached by a walk of about 1½ miles across the Burrows or by a path alongside the railway; by a journey half as long again along the high-road—the Marsh road; or by rail, for the village has a station on the line between Tenby and Pembroke Dock. The **Church** is well worthy of inspection. Being within reach of the town by a pleasant walk, its Sunday services are attended by many of Tenby's visitors. It is an ancient building that has undergone modern restoration. A very modern feature is the electric light, installed and maintained by Mr. Clement J. Williams, of Penally House. The ancient features include the thirteenth century altar-tomb of William de Haunton and his wife, a Norman font, and two hagioscopes, or squints, at the angles between the chancel and the transepts. The churchyard is prettily timbered. It contains an ancient

cross about 7 feet high, and the shaft of a much larger cross. Penally is one of the three spots in which St. Teilo, the co-founder of Llandaff Castle is said to have been buried. The others are Llandilo and Llandaff (p. 104).

To Giltar Point and Proud Giltar.

It is a fine walk over the South Sands to **Giltar Point,** rather more than a mile from the western end of the Esplanade. From it there is a splendid view, and the shore is famous for its shells. A mile and a half to the west of the Point is **Proud Giltar,** a limestone mass rising out of the water to a height of 170 feet. "There is no mistaking his kingly presence," says Gosse, "when you have once looked upon his superb face." In the top of the cliffs westward of the Point are various depressions characteristic of limestone, and in the face of the cliffs are some fine caves, but they are not easy of access. Viewed from a boat, this part of the coast is extremely striking. Writing of it as seen in that way, Gosse says :—

"A series of low arches divided from one another by massive pillars with contorted feet of white marble . . . were as curious as anything I had seen, and recalled, while they greatly excelled, the excavations near the southern extremity of Portland. One of them, particularly fine, named Rousehole, resembled a noble doorway, such as might have given entrance to an old Egyptian temple; it was situated at the top of a rising bank of sand, and was skirted by a row of three or four smaller doors at one side, which we fancied to represent the cloisters of the ministering priests."

Off Giltar Point are **Caldy Island** and **St. Margaret's Isle.** The latter is the more westerly of the two. It has but a small area and is famed for its cliffs and caves.

To Lydstep Caverns.

These have been rightly described as "the finest natural feature within easy reach of Tenby," but unfortunately, with the exception of the Smugglers' Cave, they can be visited only at the lowest of low tides. They are about 5½ miles from Tenby by way of the coast, a mile less by the road, and rather more than a mile from *Lydstep Halt,* on the line between Tenby and Pembroke Dock. The road route lies through Penally and thence to the village of **Lydstep,** where from the back of the *Quarry Inn* we follow a lane towards the sea, and then take a track that goes over the hill and down to the shore. By the cliff route we cross the Burrows parallel to the railway, pass up the cliffs to the right of the rifle butts, thence follow the cliff to Proud Giltar and continue down to Lydstep Burrows. Bearing to the right, cross the private drive and go on through the gate to the high road. The

famous caverns are on the farther side of Lydstep Point, a precipitous flat-topped limestone mass. The inlet westward of Lydstep Point is called **Skrinkle Bay,** taking its name from a hamlet not far from the shore. One side is composed of cliffs of grey limestone and the other of dark red sandstone. At the junction the remains of fossil fish are very abundant.

To Manorbier.

This interesting village lies to the south-west of Tenby. It is accessible by rail (station a mile from the village), by road (*char-à-banc*, fare, 2*s.* 6*d.*) and by the cliffs. By the last-named route the distance is 8½ miles. The route has already been described as far as Lydstep Point, from which it goes round Skrinkle Bay to the vicinity of **Old Castle Head,** the site of ancient earthworks, and thence onward for 1½ miles to a point called the **Priest's Nose,** from which it turns inland. The latter part of the coast route is rather rough.

The distance by road through Penally and Lydstep is only 5½ miles, but this route is not very interesting. A better way, which, however, adds half a mile to the journey, is to proceed by the **Ridgeway** to a farmhouse, formerly the *Rising Sun Inn,* and there to follow a road on the left. It runs to Manorbier station and thence to the village. The Ridgeway commands fine views both of sea and land.

The **Castle,** which forms the chief attraction of Manorbier, is *open to the public every week-day,* (*admission* 3*d, occasionally* 6*d.*). It is one of the finest in South Wales. In the words of Fenton it is "the most perfect model of an old Norman baron's residence, with all its appendages, church, mill, dove-house, ponds, park and grove, still to be seen and traced." It was originally built in the reign of Henry I. by Gerald de Windsor, Constable of Pembroke and husband of the beautiful Nesta, a Welsh princess who had been Henry's mistress. Giraldus the ecclesiastic, topographer and historian, to whom frequent reference has been made in these pages, was their grandson. He was born in Manorbier Castle about 1146. How he loved the spot and appreciated its various charms is manifested in his description of his birthplace. In concluding his word-picture he burst into the following panegyric :—

"Demetia . . . is the most beautiful as well as the most powerful district in Wales, Penbrock the finest part of the province of Demetia, and the place I have just described the most beautiful part of Penbrock. It is evident therefore that Manor Pyrr (Manorbier) is the Paradise of all Wales."

Of the Norman structure there are now only a few fragments. The extensive ruins which delight so many chiefly date

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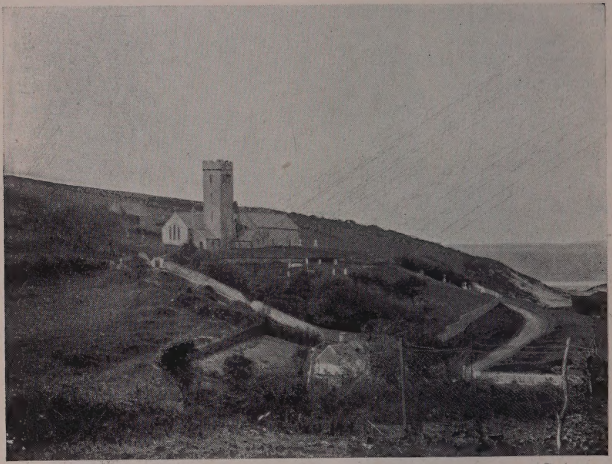
MANORBIER CASTLE.



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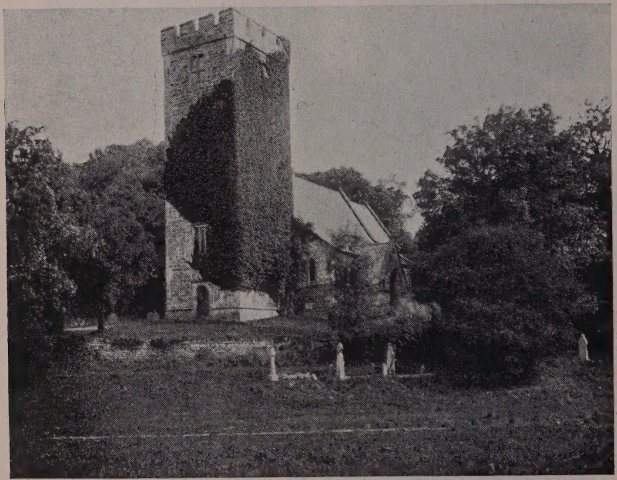
MANORBIER CHURCH.



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ST. ISSELL'S CHURCH.

from the latter end of the thirteenth century, but the building was finally strengthened in the time of Elizabeth. All the windows open into an inner court, evidence that strength and security were prime considerations with the builders. While neighbouring castles were too-well battered during the Civil War, Manorbier, for some unknown reason, escaped attack. During the latter part of the eighteenth century it was a residence of Lord Milford. Then it fell into decay, and if tradition may be credited, in the early part of the nineteenth century, smugglers found its vaults very handy for the concealment of illicit cargoes. Having been leased by the Philips' family to the late Mr. J. R. Cobb, of Brecon, the dilapidation was arrested and a small part was made habitable again.

"When you have passed over the drawbridge and under the portcullis," writes the author of *The Castles of Pembrokeshire*, "what a beautiful picture presents itself :—A lovely lawn like that of an Oxford quadrangle, walls grey with age, half-covered with ivy, battlements and towers from whose nooks and crannies peep ferns and flowers. At the south-east is the chapel, then the banqueting hall, the kitchen with a fireplace where an ox could be roasted whole, the prisoners' quarters, and in the wall the clamp to which the prisoners were chained." The Gateway Tower is thought to date from about 1270. The lower of two chambers on the far side of the court was the chapel in the time of Giraldus. Above it is another chapel which probably is coeval with the Gateway Tower. In the courtyard is a well, in the depths of which are said to be more than one recess formerly used as hiding-places. From the well were drawn the great keys of the castle and other curiosities, some of which may be seen in the Tenby museum.

From the walls of the castle the valley falls to the little bay. To the west is the stream mentioned by Giraldus, flowing through marshy land, once occupied by beautiful ponds stocked with fish. Beyond is a round tower which was the Columbarium, or dove-house. Very few such structures are now standing.

On the opposite side of the valley is the **Church,** an extremely interesting building. It was originally Norman and was erected at the same time as the oldest parts of the castle. The tower dates from about 1270. The north transept was originally Early English. In the fourteenth century it was lengthened by the de Barry Chapel and the north aisle was added to the nave. The chancel, south transept and south aisle belong to the fifteenth century. The Early English architect cut openings in the Norman walls to form arches therein when he made his additions. In the chancel

is a de Barry effigy which was formerly in the north transept. It may represent a crusading companion of the prince who became Edward I.

To Lamphey Palace.

Eight miles west of Tenby and accessible by rail or road. The direct road route is along the **Ridgeway,** of which Mrs. S. C. Hall says: "Those who have walked or ridden along it have enjoyed a luxury 'past telling'; language cannot do it justice; we believe neither in Wales nor in England can there be found a scene that combines so much of interest with so much of beauty." There is also a lower road, running through **Lydstep** and **Hodgeston** (*hodson*), the latter the site of a church with a beautiful Decorated chancel and remains of a piscina and sedilia richly ornamented with the "ball-flower"

Lamphey Palace is only half a mile from the station. Visitors who go by rail should proceed to the church, a very short distance, and there, on the opposite side of the road, take a footpath to an iron gate facing the drive of *Lamphey Court,* a modern mansion. Pass through the gate and turn to the right at the end of the wall. (*Admission 3d. Week-days only.*)

The **Palace** was one of the seven residences of the Bishops of St. David's. It is now a picturesque ruin covered with ivy and fast falling into still greater decay. It is commonly said to have been built by Bishop Gower, who held the see from 1328 to 1347, but it was erected partly before and partly after his time, as it is an Early English shell with Perpendicular insertions and additions. The Chapel is a detached building with a fine Perpendicular east window. The Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., was entertained in the palace when he was on his way from Milford to the battlefield of Bosworth which gave him the crown. Another well-known historical personage connected with the palace is Queen Elizabeth's favourite, Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, who was brought up under its roof.

To Freshwater East.

There is here a delightful bay with a hotel. The spot, admirable for picnics, can be reached from Lamphey station by a walk of less than 2 miles through charming lanes.

To Pembroke.

This ancient town is situated 10 miles to the west of Tenby, from which it may be reached by rail or by road. There are three road routes, *viz.*: (1) *viâ* Gumfreston and Carew; (2) *viâ* Penally and Lamphey; (3) along the Ridgeway. This last is at once the most direct and the most interesting. Char-

a-bancs returning from the Stack Rocks to Tenby pass through Pembroke and wait there an hour.

PEMBROKE

mainly consists of one very long street. It is built on a ridge which culminates in a great mass of limestone rock whose sides descend precipitously some hundred feet to the tidal waters of the *Cleddau River*, a branch of Milford Haven. On this rock, itself a great natural fortress, arose the **Castle,** formerly one of the largest and strongest fortresses in the kingdom and now a noble ruin. The building follows the natural configuration of the rock and consists of curtain walls protected by towers. (*Admission 4d. Entrance a little beyond the Lion Hotel.*) The Castle is visited by about 3,000 persons every year, mainly from Tenby.

The best view is obtained from the fields on the left, a little beyond Mill Bridge. To reach the bridge from the station, follow the main street westward and turn to the right at the *Red Lion Hotel*. From the bridge runs a path which should be followed to Monkton Bridge that the external walls may be fully seen. The path passes a great cavern, the **Wogan,** above which rises the North Hall of the castle. The cavern is 76 feet long by 59 feet broad and is very lofty. It communicates with the chamber above by a flight of stone steps. It is supposed to have been used as a depôt for stores. The mouth is guarded by an iron gate. The **Keep,** built by William Marshall in the reign of John, is the finest example of a round keep in England. It is 75 feet high and 60 feet in diameter at the base, where the walls are nearly 20 feet thick. They are not less than 14 feet thick at the first storey. The summit is reached by means of a spiral staircase in the thickness of the wall. The buildings at the north-east corner date from the sixteenth century, when Jasper Tudor made great additions to the castle that it might be a fit residence for the Earls of Pembroke.

The first castle, "a slender fortress with stakes and turf," is said to have been built by Arnulph de Montgomery, in the time of William Rufus. His successor, Gerald de Windsor, was besieged in it by the Welsh. Other sieges followed, and the fortress was twice burned. Henry II. sailed from Pembroke Castle to Ireland 1172, his son John visited it, and Henry VII. was born within it. Indeed, he spent the first few years of his life in the castle, which was held by his uncle Jasper till his attainder. Then both fled from the kingdom *viâ* Tenby. When the nephew returned to claim his own he landed at his boyhood's home. On the outbreak of the war between Charles I. and the Parliament, Poyer, Mayor of Pembroke, garrisoned the castle and held it for the Parliament,

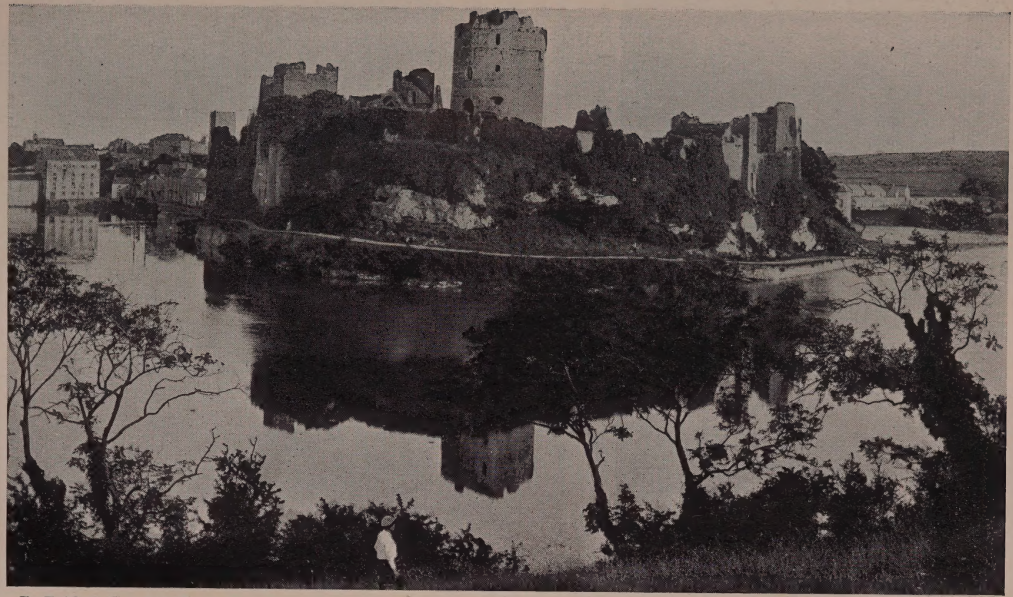
but when the war was practically over he changed sides and then held the fortress against his former friends. To put down this rebellion Cromwell appeared before the castle in June, 1648, and laid siege to it. Famine did more than his cannon-balls to bring about the surrender at the end of a few weeks, when the besieged had nothing left but a little rain-water and biscuit. Cromwell's men were in almost as great straits, "the sustenance of the foot being for the most part but bread and water." To prevent a recurrence of the trouble, the castle was dismantled. Three renegade leaders among the prisoners were sent to the Tower of London, and after trial were condemned to death. Cromwell resolved, however, to execute only one and lots were drawn for the victim. On two papers was written, "Life given by God." The third, left blank, was drawn by Poyer, and he was shot.

From the grounds, and still more so from the higher portions of the castle, a fine view is obtained across the river of **The Bush,** the historic home of the Meyricks, one of the oldest families in Wales. The house has been twice burned.

In olden days Pembroke was surrounded by walls, of which there are now only a few traces. There are two churches, but neither is of special interest.

On the hill above the castle are the remains of **Monkton Priory,** founded in 1098. To reach them, cross Monkton Bridge and turn to the right. Of the domestic buildings there are only some fragments among the farm buildings westward of the church, which originally was a double church, the long aisleless nave being used as the parish church, while the services of the monks were held in the chancel. The two communicated only by a small arch in a wall between them. After the dissolution of the monastery the monastic church was allowed to become ruinous, and it remained so until 1887. There are a few ancient monuments.

Two miles from Pembroke is **Pembroke Dockyard,** with a large and unattractive town around it, upon which evil days have fallen through the "reductions" that have been made in the adjacent "yard," where formerly shipbuilding for the Navy was largely carried on. At **Hobb's Point** is a steam ferry (*single fare, 2d.; return, 3d.*) to *New Milford Station,* from which a line runs to Haverfordwest. At the Point boats can be hired for excursions on **Milford Haven,** one of the finest harbours in Europe, being accessible at all states of the tide for the largest vessels, but by reason of its position it is almost useless. It is formed by an inlet of the sea, 12 miles in length and from 1 to 3 miles wide. Until the opening of the Fishguard route, New Milford, or Neyland as it should be called, was the port from which the Great Western Railway maintained regular steam communication with Ireland. Some 4 miles nearer the mouth of the Haven is **Milford Town**—Old Milford, although founded only in



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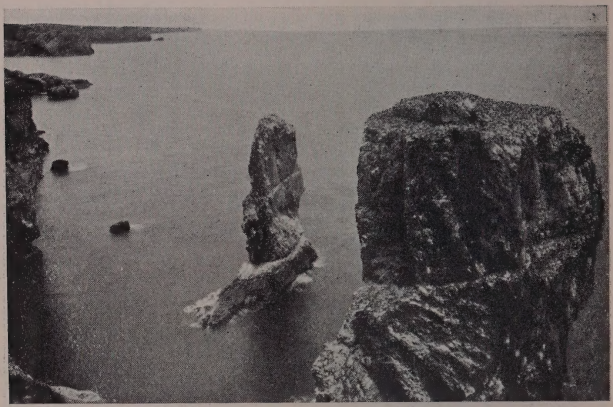
PEMBROKE CASTLE.



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THE STACK ROCKS.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,] [*Reigate.*

THE HUNTSMAN'S LEAP, ST. GOVAN'S HEAD.

1790. For a few years (1800–1814) it was the site of a royal dockyard, removed in 1814 to Pater (Pembroke Dock). In the church are interesting mementoes of Nelson.

To the Stack Rocks.

These are off the coast south-west of Pembroke, from which they are distant 6½ miles by the direct route and 10½ miles *viâ* St. Govan's Chapel. From Tenby the distance by road, there and back, is 40 miles, and the excursion is one of the finest which can be made from that town. Char-a-bancs run daily during the season. Fare 5*s.* by some, 6*s.* 6*d.* by others. The spot can also be conveniently reached from Tenby by taking train to Pembroke and driving thence (carriage and driver, 12*s.* 6*d.*). Steamers occasionally make the excursion. There is no inn near the coast, but tea, etc., can be obtained at a coastguard's cottage.

The char-a-bancs from Tenby go by one road and return by another. Taking the upper road for the outward journey, we pass along the Ridgeway to Lamphey and Pembroke, From Pembroke station we go southward. At first this part of the route is rather hilly and uninteresting. We soon pass **St. Daniel's Church,** and between 2 and 3 miles from Pembroke enter the Stackpole estate (Lord Cawdor's), with beautiful woods and a lake that has been formed by constructing a dam across the mouth of a long, winding valley. The beeches in the grounds are particularly fine.

Stackpole Court, a plain stone mansion, is not open to the public. It has taken the place of an old baronial castellated residence which was garrisoned for Charles I. On the lawn are a couple of cannon taken from the French who landed near Fishguard in 1797. One of the treasures of the Court is a Hirlas Horn, or drinking-cup, the contents of which guests were at one time expected to quaff at a draught. It was "presented by the Earl of Richmond to Dafydd-ap-Jevan, by whom he was entertained at Llwyn Dafydd, in Cardiganshire, on his way to Bosworth." The Stackpole estate came into the possession of the noble family now holding it by marriage with Miss Lort, the sole heiress.

Visitors in a private carriage should request the driver not to take the usual turn to the right at the farm a short distance from the mansion, but to cross the lake and go up the hill on the farther side. The slight detour is worth making for the sake of the fine view obtained of the lake, the house and of the coast towards Manorbier.

About a mile to the north-east of Stackpole Court is **Cheriton,** or **Stackpole Elidor Church,** a fourteenth-century building restored under the direction of Sir Gilbert Scott. It contains several ancient monuments of the

Stackpole family and a chantry altar-slab with the inscription

CAMU . . . ORIS—FILI FANNVE,

which is assigned to the seventh century.

(If the church is to be visited, turn to the left shortly before reaching the entrance to Stackpole, and then regain the main road by proceeding towards the south-west.)

Between 2 and 3 miles beyond Stackpole Court, we reach the village of **Bosherston.** In the burial-ground is a cross containing the head of the Christ, in low relief, at the intersection of the limbs.

Another mile and a half brings us to the cliffs near **St. Govan's Head,** where a halt is made to allow of the inspection of **St. Govan's Chapel,** a hermitage half-way down a ravine which forms the only approach to the sea for several miles on either side. Leading to the chapel are rude steps which, it is said, cannot be correctly numbered. At any rate the reckonings of those who attempt the task do not agree. Tradition and legend have gathered round the building, but there is no historical record of it. That which we now see probably dates from the end of the thirteenth century, and was erected on the site of an older building. Popular tradition makes the spot the retreat of Arthur's knight, Gawain. The saint to whom the chapel is dedicated, however, is St. Cofen, the wife of a king of South Wales who was killed in battle in the sixth century.

The chapel is a small, plain building with a ridge roof and wooden bell-cote. The interior measures 18 feet in length and 12 feet in breadth. The roof is a plain stone vault. On both sides of the chapel is a stone seat. Just within it are a well and an aumbrey. The mud of the former was long used as a remedy for disorders of the eye. Still in its proper position is a stone altar. It is said to be the tomb of St. Govan. To the right of the altar are a piscina and an aumbrey. On the opposite side is an arched doorway, opening upon a niche whose sides have rib-like impressions, said to have been made by contact with St. Govan's body. According to the legend, when the saint was fleeing from pagan persecutors, the rock containing the niche miraculously opened to allow him to enter, and then, closing upon him, kept him hidden until the danger was past. After opening to set the saint free, the aperture was not re-closed.

Fenton, in his *Historical Tour Through Pembrokeshire,* published in 1812, says that the niche "is of so accommodating a nature as to admit of the largest as well as the smallest man, contracting or dilating to fit its inhabitants, and if you frame a wish whilst in it, and do not change your mind during the operation of turning

about, you will certainly obtain it; and therefore it is not to be wondered that the interior of this marble case should bear the finest polish."

Below the chapel is a **Well** reputed to possess miraculous healing power. Cripples made their way to it even from the remotest parts of the Principality. They bathed their feeble limbs, and having been healed thereby left their crutches on the altar as a votive offering. Fenton took note of them, and some were to be seen as late as 1840.

In bygone days the vicinity of the chapel held another treasure, the Bell Rock, a huge limestone boulder, which produced a metallic note when struck with a stone. To account for this there is the legend that the rock acquired its singular property through having been the temporary resting-place of the chapel bell, which was being carried off by pirates.

St. Govan's Head, three-quarters of a mile to the east of the Chapel, commands a fine view, but our road runs in the opposite direction. Following it along the line of the cliffs, a third of a mile brings us to the **Huntsman's Leap,** the second ravine westward of that containing the chapel. It owes its name to the tradition that it was cleared by a sportsman in full career, who afterwards died of fright inspired by reflecting upon his feat. The danger lies in the take-off and landing, for the ravine is not wider than a man could leap.

A little farther we are abreast of **Bosherston Mere,** a small circular opening near the edge of the cliff. It is the top of a natural funnel that comes up from a large cave. When the sea dashes into the cave, the air is driven out through the funnel and carries with it clouds of foam.

Half a mile farther there is a small cliff castle on the left, and at the end of another mile and a half is a bush-like patch, generally called the **Sunken Forest,** but this name is erroneous and misleading. The roof of a cave has collapsed and the trees, whose tops appear as bushes, were either carried down with the earth in which they were growing, or they have sprung up from seeds that have fallen into the pit. On the left is **Bullslaughter Bay;** from the shore there is a good view of the Stack Rocks and of a fine natural arch.

A short mile from the "Forest" we reach a cliff camp enclosing the **Devil's Punch Bowl,** a magnificent caldron which the sea enters through an arch. The sides go down perpendicularly to a depth of some 130 feet. In the crannies sea-gulls lay their eggs and rear their young. The best view is obtained from the seaward side. The edge can be approached with safety if care is taken to avoid the narrow fissures in the surrounding rock. The scene is one, as the

late Philip Henry Gosse declared, to which no description could do justice, or convey any idea of its sublimity and grandeur.

Just beyond the caldron are the far-famed **Stacks,** two lofty columns of limestone, which from April to the first week in August are the haunt of innumerable sea-birds, principally guillemots and razor bills. The eggs are laid on the bare rock. When the young ones can fly, all but a few birds desert the rocks until the following spring.

From a point a little westward of the Stack Rocks three fine natural arches may be seen in a line. Half a mile beyond this view-point is an inlet called the **Wash,** containing a huge slab of limestone, rich in fossil corals and having a curiously rippled and fissured surface.

The return journey is made by the direct road to Pembroke. This runs through **Warren,** which has a church with a fine tower and steeple, and through **Monkton.** The public conveyances remain at **Pembroke** (p. 131) long enough for the castle to be inspected. On the way from Pembroke to Tenby a glimpse of **Lamphey Palace** (p. 130) can be obtained, and the beautiful panorama unfolded along the Ridgeway includes the Preceley Mountains and Carew Castle.

To Hoyle's Mouth.

The name is probably a corruption of "Hole's Mouth" or "The Oyle." The thing itself is the entrance to a cave in the side of a wooded limestone cliff, 1½ miles south-west of Tenby. A light is required to explore the cave. To reach the spot from White Lion Street, follow Greenhill Road under the railway, and across the marsh to Marsh Bridge about 1 mile. Some 350 yards farther turn sharply to the right and in a few yards take a lane on the right at the foot of Holloway Hill. You soon reach a gate just past a cottage on the left. Pass through it and follow the right-hand track up a slope through a wood. The cave will be reached in two or three minutes from the lane. A passage that gradually narrows leads through one or two small chambers, and then turns to the right to **Hoyle's Chamber,** about 100 feet from the opening on the hillside. Explorations have been continued to a point 159 feet from the opening, but the passage leading from Hoyle's Chamber is so small that few visitors care to go farther. Part of a human skeleton and the bones of the cave bear and the Irish elk were found in this cave when it was examined by Professor Rolleston and Mr. E. Laws in 1878. A full account of the cavern and of its contents is given in Laws' *Little England Beyond Wales.* Some Shakespearians have identified this cavern with the cave of Belarius

as described in *Cymbeline*, and the observer who recalls Shakespeare's lines can scarcely fail to see that they apply in a very marked degree.

To Gumfreston.

1½ miles west of Tenby. Leave the town by Greenhill Road, which goes off from the junction of the White Lion and Warren Streets. Pass under the right hand arch of the railway and along Heywood Lane. About a mile from the railway, at the bottom of the hill, bear to the right. Midway between the Pumping Station and Gumfreston Mill the gate on the right leads to the ruins of **Scotsborough House,** the residence, early in the seventeenth century, of Thomas ap Rhys, whose monument is one of the interesting features of Tenby Church. A century after his time the mansion fell into decay, but why it ceased to be inhabited is unknown.

Gumfreston Church (*key at the Rectory*) stands almost isolated in a beautifully wooded glen. It may have been erected to meet the needs of one of the great houses now in ruins in its vicinity. The tower, the body of the church, and the font, are thought to date from about the year 1300. The tower, 65 feet high, is divided into five chambers, of which "the ground floor serves as a north transept for the church; the first floor was the ringers' chamber; the second and third have windows looking north and east; the fourth is fitted up as a dove-cote; and in the fifth hang the bells." In the north wall of the nave is a curious Baptistery, and on the same wall are traces of frescoes which are thought to have pictured St. Lawrence with the gridiron and other instruments of his torture. A bronze sancte bell and some sixteenth-century pewter communion vessels are preserved in a recess behind the pulpit. The chancel arch is exceptionally low. In the north transept is a squint. In the south wall of the chancel is a Decorated piscina. A small chapel, used as a vestry, has a groined roof and Early English trefoil lights.

At the farther end of the churchyard are mineral springs, of which Dr. Davies, physician to William IV., pronounced the water to be similar to that which made Tunbridge Wells famous, while Dr. Golding Bird, Professor of Therapeutics to Guy's Hospital, said that the water "is one of the purest hitherto known, and owes its medical properties to the iron and to the large quantity of carbonic acid which it contains. The extreme freedom from saline ingredients would render this water of great value to those patients who cannot bear the ordinary chalybeate water."

To Carew.

Situated west of Tenby, 6½ miles *viâ* Gumfreston, 8½ miles *viâ* the Ridgeway. Char-a-banc fare, *2s. 6d.*

Carew is the site of an interesting church, the remains of a fine castle and an ancient stone cross.

The **Church** is a cruciform building mainly in the Decorated style, but it has a Perpendicular embattled tower and a Norman font. The main part of the structure "may be assigned to Bishop Gower with something like a moral certainty. No one but he would have scattered his favourite four-leaved flower on the broad surface of a pier arch." Bishop Gower, it will be remembered, was a great builder. He died in 1347. In the chancel are effigies of a knight-crusader and a priest, now both nameless. The north transept formed the mortuary chapel of the Carew family. The chief of its monuments is an altar-tomb containing the effigies of Sir John Carew and Elizabeth his wife. The knight was Sheriff of Pembrokeshire in 1623 and died in 1637.

In the churchyard is a ruinous building which probably was once a chapel. A short distance south of the church is a farmhouse which was once a fortified rectory. In the centre of a row of cottages is a large brick oven for the use of the cottagers in common.

The **Cross** is on the wayside, opposite the castle, about half a mile from the church. It is 14 feet high, and is supposed to be not later than the ninth or tenth century. The surface is richly decorated, and in a small panel on the western face is an inscription in peculiar lettering. The meaning is obscure.

Carew Castle (*admission* 3*d.*) is on a slight eminence overlooking a creek of Milford Haven. The original building is said to have been a residence of the early British princes. It was part of the dowry of the "Helen of Wales" who became the wife of Gerald de Windsor, the castellan of Pembroke. One of their descendants mortgaged the property to Sir Rhys ap Thomas, the chief Welsh supporter of Henry VII. His grandson having lost his head on Tower Hill, the castle passed to the Crown. By Mary it was granted to Sir John Perrott, supposed to be a natural son of Henry VIII. He suffered attainder in the reign of Elizabeth, and the property again reverted to the Crown. It was finally purchased by descendants of the Carew family, who trace their descent from pre-Norman times. During the Civil War Carew Castle was garrisoned for the King, but when Tenby Castle fell Carew surrendered also on condition that the soldiers marched out with their muskets and baggage. The castle ceased to be inhabited sometime after 1689.

Most of the work that we now see was done under the direction of Sir Rhys ap Thomas and Sir John Perrott. The plan of the building is rectangular, with a round fronted tower at each angle and a gate house on the east front. Military considerations evidently governed the construction of the west front, which is a fine example of an Edwardian

stronghold. In striking contrast is the north front, where is the dining-room begun by Sir John Perrott, but never finished. It is lighted by two rows of oriels. In the east front is a beautiful window which Bishop Vaughan may have inserted in 1510. Some of the apartments near the entrance gateway are probably still very much like what they were when they were used by men-at-arms and other retainers. The chapel is in a tower on the east side. It has a groined roof and probably dates from the time of Edward II. On the east side of the first floor is a fireplace with the arms of Spain. North and east of the quadrangle are the State apartments, and other rooms partly built by Sir John Perrott. At various points flights of steps lead to the battlements.

Henry, Earl of Richmond, rested at Carew Castle on his way from Milford Haven to Bosworth Field, and in 1507 it was the scene of a grand tournament, remarkable as the first and last entertainment of the kind given in Wales. It was in honour of St. George, the patron Saint of the Order of the Garter, which order Sir Rhys ap Thomas received for capturing the pretender, Perkin Warbeck. The élite of all Wales were invited, and a thousand responded. The festivities lasted five days. The guests and their attendants for whom room could not be found in the Castle were lodged in tents.

Rhys ap Thomas, commonly called "the valiant Welshman," came of a warlike stock. He was brought up at the court of the Duke of Burgundy. The death of his two elder brothers, killed in some petty border skirmishes, left him the representative of his race, and lord of the greater part of Carmarthenshire. During the latter part of the reign of Edward IV. and during the minority of his successor, the Welsh chieftain occupied himself in training his tenantry in the art of war that he might be ready for the troublous times which he foresaw. When Richard III. became aware of the intention of the Earl of Richmond to dispute his right to the crown, he sent commissioners to Carmarthen to administer the oath of allegiance to Rhys, and demand the surrender of his son and heir, a boy four years old, as hostage for his fidelity. The Welshman took the oath, but declined to give up his child. To mollify the King for this disobedience he (or rather the abbot of Talye for him) wrote a letter asserting his loyalty and saying that "whoever ill-affected to the State shall dare to land in those parts of Wales where I have employments under your majesty must resolve with himself to make his entrance and irruption over my body." This promise troubled him when he desired to espouse the cause of the Earl of Richmond, but the Bishop of St. David's set his mind at ease by pointing out that the Earl could not be looked upon as ill-affected to the State, seeing that he came to relieve it from an unrighteous ruler, and that it would not be difficult to keep to the letter his voluntary protestation Accordingly he welcomed Richmond ashore, and at the same

time satisfied his scruples by lying down on the ground and allowing the Earl to pass over his body.

Welsh tradition ascribes Richard's death-wound to the hand of Rhys. One argument in support of the tradition is that from that time forward the King always called him Father Rhys. Be this as it may, Rhys ap Thomas was knighted on the field, and was afterwards employed in the war with France and the rebellions at home. He was the recipient of many honours, and besides other offices conferred upon him was made Governor of Wales. At the end of Henry VII.'s reign he retired to Wales, where he practised the national virtue of hospitality in a style of great magnificence till his death at the good old age of seventy-six. His tomb may still be seen in St. Peter's Church, Carmarthen, and his memory is preserved in the literature of his countrymen.

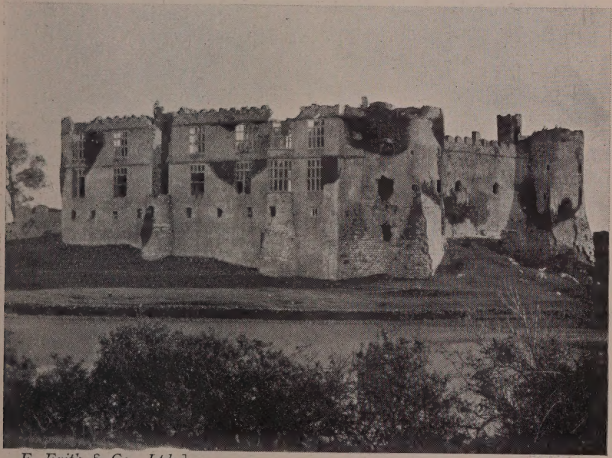
To Caldy Island.

About 2½ miles from Tenby harbour. The island is the natural breakwater of Tenby on the south side. The shape is irregular. The length is about 1½ miles; the breadth, two-thirds of a mile. About 450 acres consist of highly productive land, and there are about 100 acres of foreshore. Caldy has been called "the Island of Saints." As early as the sixth century, if not before, it was the site of a monastery. For a time St. David, the patron saint of Wales, dwelt upon the island. From the twelfth century to the sixteenth Caldy belonged to the Benedictines. Upon the Dissolution of Monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII., it passed into secular hands, but in 1906 it again became the property of a Benedictine community. No one is allowed to land on the island without permission. This can be obtained by writing to the Rev. the Abbot, Caldy. Passage to and from the island can be made by a small steamer belonging to the monastery (fare 2*s.* return), or by a private boat. The various objects of interest are shown by the Guest Master, for whom inquiry should be made on arrival. The **Guest House** is reached from the jetty by following the road to the left over the hill. The village church is a small and very plain building, possibly of Celtic foundation. A lane, overshadowed by a fuchsia hedge of many years' growth, leads to the modern **Priory House,** the old monastic buildings dating from the thirteenth century, and the **Priory Church.** The east window is a modern reproduction of the original, fragments of which served as a sufficient model. A very interesting relic is an Ogham stone, containing two inscriptions.

At the south-west corner of Caldy, the highest portion of the island, is a lighthouse displaying a fixed white light visible for 20 miles over the sea, and also sending red rays towards Old Castle Head and the Woolhouse Shoal. Off the western point of Caldy, a reef of rocks, bare at low tide, connects the island with **St. Margaret's Islet.**

M. Allen,] [*Tenby.*

GUMFRESTON CHURCH.



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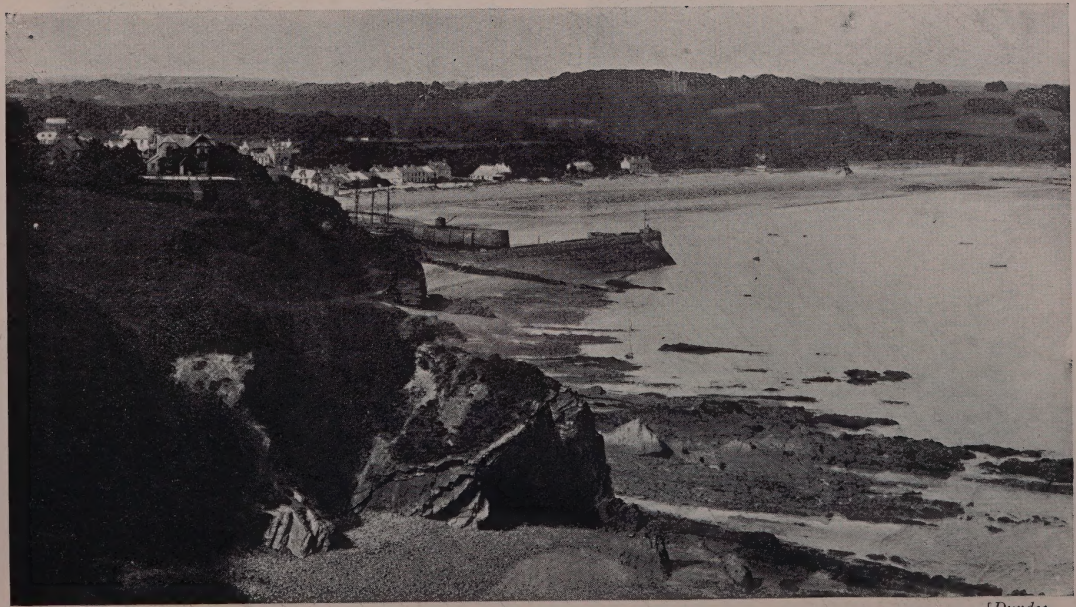
CAREW CASTLE.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,] [*Dundee.*

SAUNDERSFOOT BAY.

To Waterwynch.

A pretty little bay, with a pleasant beach backed by fine cliffs, about 1½ miles north of Tenby. The route is down the Norton, along the Croft, and from the farther end of North Cliff Terrace either by a lane which succeeds the road or by a field path parallel to the lane. From the top of the hill the route follows a lane that leads into the **Waterwynch** valley, where a turn must be made to the right. In the next inlet, accessible from Waterwynch, are the **Raven Cliff** and the **Fern Rock.** The latter owes its name to the fossil ferns which it contains.

To Saundersfoot.

Railway Station.—1¾ miles from the village. Vehicles for the conveyance of passengers meet the principal trains (fare 6*d.*).

Saundersfoot is a seaside village 3 miles north of Tenby, with a population of about 1,000. It offers safe bathing on a sandy beach, backed by cliffs crowned with trees. To the south of the village is a small harbour from which coasters carry anthracite coal brought down on a tramway from the Bonville and Kilgetty Collieries. These little bits of industry do not in the slightest degree mar the amenities of the village as a pleasure resort. The piers that enclose the harbour are pleasant resting-places. In view from them is the whole sweep of Carmarthen Bay, from Monkstone to Worms Head. The houses on the south cliff command a lovely prospect, and have the advantage of being nearer to Tenby than the lower part of the village. The north cliff is occupied by **Hên** (*hayne*) **Castle** and its well-wooded park. "Hên," by the way, is Welsh for "old." The local spelling is usually "Hean," a quite erroneous form of the word.

The road from the station runs down a lovely sylvan glen and passes **St. Issell's Church,** three-quarters of a mile short of the village. Its distinctive feature is its narrow defensive tower. From the church the road bends to the right and goes over a hill into Saundersfoot, but pedestrians may follow a path in the fields below the church.

The road route from Tenby includes that part of the Norton which runs behind the Croft. Just before reaching the Cemetery, vehicles must bear to the left. Pedestrians should keep to the right along the old road the "Slippery Back," which is shorter and shady. The two routes come together again above Waterwynch. Three-quarters of a mile farther a branch road on the right runs to Saundersfoot, as does also another half a mile farther. The first is the better.

A pleasant circular excursion can be made by going from Tenby to Saundersfoot by rail and returning by road.

For an enjoyable **ramble from Saundersfoot,** follow the

tramway (keeping a sharp look-out for coal trains) to **Wiseman's Bridge,** 1 mile, and there turn inland by a road skirting the grounds of Hên Castle. At the end of about a mile it joins the road from Saundersfoot Station, at a point near St. Issell's Church.

Amroth, 3 miles from Saundersfoot, is the site of a submerged forest which is exposed at low water. The village can be reached by the shore when the tide is out, and only then, but the way is so rough as to be almost impracticable. The best route is by train to Kilgetty and thence either by road or across the fields by a path which can be entered about half a mile beyond the station. Distance from Kilgetty station to Amroth 3 miles.

Pendine, a small and pretty village on the coast, 8 miles from Saundersfoot, has fine cliff scenery, possesses firm sands and is rich in shells. Proceed to Amroth and then follow the main road to **Marros** village. There cross the high land near the church and descend to the shore.

To Llawhaden,

14 miles north of Tenby. Llawhaden is best reached by rail to Narberth, from which it is 4 miles distant.

Narberth is a market town with about 1,000 inhabitants To the south of the town are the fragments of a **Castle,** probably Edwardian, although the site held a castle as early as the eleventh century. For a time Narberth Castle was held by Roger Mortimer, the favourite of Isabella, the consort of the unfortunate Edward II. It was garrisoned for Charles I., but was taken by the Parliament and dismantled.

For Llawhaden from Narberth Station, go to the right. Cross the top of the town to the vicarage and go straight on to Robestan Wathen. Pedestrians are allowed to pass through the gate of Robestan Wathen house and along the drive. Pass through the gate at the end of the drive, take the lane in front and follow down the hill, or cross the fields about half a mile down the lane.

Llawhaden Church is prettily situated by the side of the East Cleddau. Built into the east wall is an ancient cross. A chapel communicating with the chancel by a double arch supported by a pillar which possibly is Norman, contains the mutilated effigy of Bishop Houghton of St. David's (d. 1389) A steep lane opposite the churchyard gate leads to the **Castle,** long one of the many residences of the Bishops of St. David's.

ON AND NEAR THE WEST COAST.

Haverfordwest — St. David's — Fishguard — Goodwick — Cardigan—Newcastle Emlyn—New Quay—Lampeter—Aberayron—Aberystwyth.

HAVERFORDWEST.

Situation.—In Pembrokeshire, on the Great Western Railway, at the head of the navigable portion of the Western Cleddau.
Coaches or Mail Cars.—To St. David's, Broad Haven, and Little Haven.
Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.
Omnibuses.—Hotel 'buses meet the trains. The station is at the east end of the town.
Post Office.—In High Street.
Population.—About 6,000.

HAVERFORDWEST is a prosperous and important inland market-town. It is well built, and stands on the slope of a steep hill beside the *Western Cleddau*, which flows down to Milford Haven. The walls and towers by which the town was formerly protected have quite disappeared, but the shell of its **Castle** is still a prominent object. The castle stands upon a rocky eminence overhanging the river. It was built in the twelfth century by Gilbert de Clare, the first Earl of Pembroke, as a protection to the English settlement. The fortress was unsuccessfully besieged by Owen Glyndwr, and in the Civil War it was held by the Royalists. It was dismantled in 1648, and is now occupied by the County Constabulary as their headquarters. The principal entrance is from Queen's Square near St. Martin's Church, but a short cut may be taken from Castle Square through the yard of the *Castle Hotel*. The Castle appears to the best advantage when viewed from a distance.

In early days the dungeon of the Castle is said to have held a robber chief, to whom three sons of the Earl of Pembroke and two of the governor of the castle, playmates together, obtained access that he might make arrows for them, his skill in that respect having reached their ears. Under proper guard they went and so were safe, but one day it chanced that two or three of the children were left alone with him. Then his opportunity had come. He locked himself in with them, and to all who approached he swore to kill his hostages if life and freedom were not granted to him. Much as it vexed his captors to accept his terms they had to do so.

The old town has three ancient churches, **St. Martin's, St. Thomas',** which has the tomb of Richard the Palmer, who in the twelfth century accomplished a journey to Rome, and **St. Mary's,** one of the finest in the county. It is open all day. Entrance by the south gate of the churchyard. Fantastic gargoyles are an interesting feature of the exterior. A remarkable feature of the nave and chancel is the clerestory, as that is very rarely seen in Welsh churches. It is Perpendicular, but the chancel itself is Early English. The nave and north aisle have carved roofs, that of the nave being very elaborate. The capitals of the arcade alongside the north aisle are also richly carved. At the west end of the nave is the much-defaced effigy of a pilgrim of the time of Henry VII. On the satchel are scallop shells, indicating that the shrine visited was that of St. James of Compostella, in Spain. In the left-hand angle of the west wall is a curious corbel symbolical of memory. Near the north porch is a bench end with a carving of St. Michael and the Dragon.

In the centre of the town is the **Shire Hall,** a very fine structure. Other public buildings are the **Masonic Hall,** the **Temperance Hall,** and the **Market-house.**

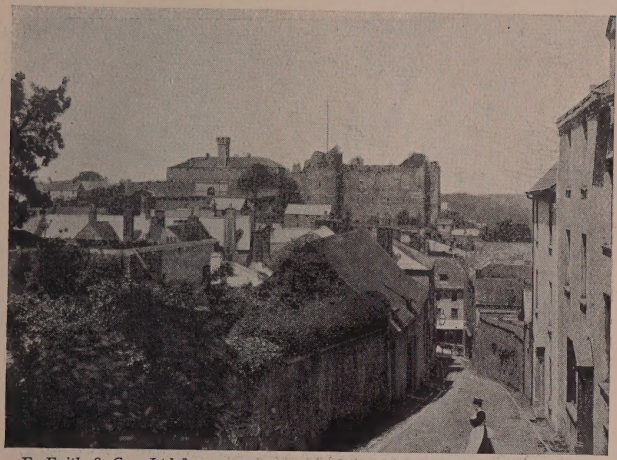
The town is surrounded with an unusually large number of beautiful walks. Among them there is, on the eastern side of the river, a very pleasant one called **The Frolic,** a couple of miles in length. Along the western side of the river is the **Parade,** which leads to a meadow containing the ruins of a Priory of the Augustines. The ruins can be seen from the bridge between the station and the main portion of the town.

In Queen Elizabeth's reign Sir John Perrot, Lord Deputy of Ireland, resided at Haverfordwest "keeping up great state," and Sir Herbert Perrot, the friend and contemporary of Addison, said to have been the original of Sir Roger de Coverley, also hailed from Haverfordwest.

The best short excursion from Haverfordwest is to

Picton Castle.

(*Admission, in the absence of the family, by ticket, obtainable at the Estate Office, Haverfordwest.*) The Castle is surrounded by lovely grounds. The entrance to the park is on the Carmarthen Road, 2½ miles east of Haverfordwest Station. The **Castle** is ¼ mile from the park gates. It was built by William de Picton in the reign of William II., and is therefore one of the most ancient residences in the kingdom. At the



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,] [*Reigate.*

HAVERFORDWEST.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,] [*Reigate.*

THE NAVE, ST. DAVID'S CATHEDRAL.

M. Allen,] [*Tenby.*

ST. DAVID'S CATHEDRAL.

end of the fourteenth century it passed into the possession of the Philipps' family, who held it until 1868, when it passed by marriage to Mr. C. E. G. Fisher, who took the name of Philipps and was subsequently made a baronet. During the Civil War it was held for the King, and was stoutly defended against the forces of the Parliament. In spite of various alterations and additions that were made from time to time, the Castle retained its original form until a comparatively recent period. The park extends to the estuary of the *East Cleddau*, which is a noble sheet of water when the tide is in. The River Cleddau extends from Haverfordwest to the beautiful harbour of Milford Haven. Its scenery is exceptionally fine. It is compared for beauty to the Dart and the Tamar.

Adjoining Picton Park on the east are the grounds of **Slebech Hall,** a modern mansion. The land was once held by the Knights Templars. The only remains of their buildings are the picturesque ruins of their church. Close to the road stands a new church erected by the late Baron de Rutzen; the spire is of very peculiar construction.

Broad Haven and Little Haven are on the coast, 7 miles to the south-west of Haverfordwest. A mail cart runs between them and Haverfordwest in connection with the night mails to and from London (single fare, 1*s.* 6*d.*). The road is uninteresting until near the end, when there comes into view the beautiful St. Bride's Bay. **Broad Haven** (*Royal Hotel* and *Brock's Temp. Hotel*) is a small and pretty hamlet, with extensive sands that afford good bathing. **Little Haven,** a still smaller place, is in a narrow combe immediately south of Broad Haven. Between the two hamlets is a very steep hill. When the tide serves this can be avoided by using the sands.

ST. DAVID'S.

Situation.—At the extreme western point of Wales.

Approach.—From Haverfordwest by mail car in connection with the night mail from London (returns from St. David's in the afternoon). Single fare, 5*s.*; return, 7*s.* 6*d.* Coach to and from Haverfordwest on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and in summer on Thursdays also. Leaves Haverfordwest about 3 p.m. (Leaves St. David's about 7 a.m.). The journey occupies about 3 hours. Fares—inside, 2*s.* 6*d.* A coach also goes to Letterstone (14 miles.) every Monday and Saturday, leaving St. David's at 6.30 a.m. The journey occupies about 2½ hrs.

Distances.—Haverfordwest, 16 miles; Fishguard, 16 miles; St. David's Head, 2½ miles.

Golf.—A nine-hole course. *See* p. 172.

Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.

"Sixteen miles and seventeen hills," is the popular description of the road between Haverfordwest and St. David's. As one travels along it there are frequent glimpses of fine landscapes and seascapes. About half-way there stands, on the right, the ruined tower of **Roch Castle,** built in the reign of Henry III. for the protection of "Little England beyond Wales." Three and a half miles short of St. David's is the village of **Solva,** on the shore of a romantic cove.

The coast from St. David's Head to Jack Sound, i.e. St. Bride's Bay, is a splendid field for geologists.

St. David's ranks as a city through being the seat of a bishop. Otherwise it would be described as a large village of three streets. It stands in a desolate situation a mile from the sea. The place still answers to the description given three centuries ago: "A city as barren as old is St. David's; neither clad with woods, nor garnished with rivers, nor beautiful with fields, nor adorned with meadows, but lieth alwayes open both to stormes and winds." The locality, indeed, is almost bare of foliage with the exception of the valley of the River *Alan,* a small stream on the western side of St. David's; but the golden blossom of the gorse, which is very abundant in the parish, relieves the monotony of the scene in spring and summer. The grandeur of the bold coast, the interest attached to the ancient Cathedral, the purity of the air, the golf course, the bathing, fishing and shooting, make the village-city sufficiently attractive to secure constant occupation of the apartments that are offered to summer visitors. There are gas and water works, and a very good Free Reading Room (supported by voluntary contributions), with a library from which visitors can obtain books for a small payment.

Going down the principal street, we come to the ancient **City Cross,** in the Square. Beyond that a square embattled edifice, storm-beaten and grey with age, and apparently springing from nowhere, comes suddenly in view. It is the upper portion of the stately central tower of the Cathedral of St. David, which stands in the sombre valley below, together with the ruins of St. Mary's College and of the Episcopal Palace.

By way of the **Pebbles,** a thoroughfare lined with ancient houses, we come to the gateway of a thirteenth-century tower. We pass through that into the Close and then must descend a stone staircase, called the Thirty-Nine

Articles, by reason of the number of steps, before we can enter the Cathedral.

St. David's Cathedral.

Dimensions.—The total length of the interior is 298 feet, of which 130 are contained in the nave. The breadth of the nave is 68 feet. The transepts measure 47 feet by 33. The tower is 124 feet high.

The see was founded by St. David in the sixth century, but there are now no visible remains of any building earlier than the last quarter of the twelfth century, when the third Norman bishop, Peter de Leia, rebuilt the Cathedral, which is said to have been burned down by the Danes in 1087. The nave is part of his work. In 1220 the tower fell and destroyed the choir and transepts. They were almost immediately rebuilt, as was also the lowest stage of the tower. In 1248 much damage was done by an earthquake. The Lady Chapel was erected by Bishop Martyn, who held the see from 1290 to 1328. He was followed by Bishop Gower, who added to the height of the walls of the nave, inserted Decorated windows, added a stage to the tower, put up the rood screen, and built the South Porch. The roof of the nave probably belongs to the first decade of the sixteenth century. Immediately afterwards Bishop Vaughan vaulted the Lady Chapel and the Chapel bearing his name at the east end of the Presbytery. The roofs of the Lady Chapel and the Presbytery aisles were stripped of their lead during the Civil War, and the buildings beneath them became dilapidated. The work of complete and intelligent restoration was begun in 1846.

The shrine of St. David was for ages an object of peculiar veneration. Two pilgrimages to it were regarded as equal in merit to one visit to Rome. Among those who visited it as pilgrims were William the Conqueror, Henry II., Edward I., and his Queen, Eleanor.

One of the bishops of St. David's was William Laud, who, as Archbishop of Canterbury, was beheaded in 1645. Another was Henry Chichele, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury—Shakespeare's Archbishop in *Henry V.* A third was Robert Ferrar, who was sent to the stake during the Marian persecution.

Externally, the cathedral now mainly displays the Decorated style. The principal exceptions are the uppermost storey of the Central Tower, which is Perpendicular, the west front, and the turrets of the south transept, which are all Tran-

sitional Norman. To quote Mr. J. O. Scott, "its exterior, with the exception of the tower, which is lofty and graceful in outline and details, is in keeping with the stern surroundings."

The interior is in striking contrast to the exterior. It is specially remarkable for the ornamentation of the roof and arches, and the deep colour of the stone. The purplish-slatey-coloured material came from Caerbwdy, and that which is redder from Caerfai, both upon the neighbouring coast. The style of the **Nave** is Transitional Norman, and therefore this part of the edifice architecturally goes back nearly half a century beyond the date of its erection. The beautiful roof is of grey Irish oak. On the fourth and fifth piers on the south side are remains of ancient paintings. On the same side is the tomb of *Bishop Morgan* (d. 1504). It has a fine Resurrection panel. The slope of the floor towards the east can hardly escape notice. Both this and the inclination of some of the pillars may be due to the earthquake which brought down the tower, or simply to faulty foundations. The nave is the Parish Church. The beautiful **Rood Screen,** as mentioned above, is the work of Bishop Gower, sometime Chancellor of England, who died 1347. His tomb with his effigy is at the south end. To the right of the Rood Screen is a brass tablet in memory of the medical staff of the Welsh Hospital in South Africa who died in the Boer War.

The lantern of the tower deserves special notice. By some it is considered to be the architectural gem of the whole building.

The stalls belong to the fifteenth century. Some of the misereres exhibit quaint figures. The bishop's throne also dates from the fifteenth century, but portions of it are older, being parts of Bishop Gower's stalls. Its construction was due to Bishop Morgan, who was buried in front of it. The reigning sovereign of Britain holds the first prebendal stall of St. David's, so King Edward is a prebendary of the cathedral. This is unique. The stall is near the bishop's. It is distinguished by a small plate bearing the royal arms.

The lower tier of lancets in the **Presbytery** are not true windows, such being impossible by reason of the chapel to the eastward. They are filled with glass mosaics. The central one represents the Crucifixion, the other two represent the Church and the Synagogue. Under the central lancet is a pierced cross, about the use of which there is difference of opinion. In the centre of the western side of the Presbytery is the tomb of *Edmund Tudor,* Earl of Richmond, father of Henry VII. He was buried at the Grey Friars, Carmarthen, and on the dissolution of that religious house by his grandson, his remains were brought to their present resting-place.

The brasses are modern. They were presented by the descendant of a bishop. Although between four and five hundred years have passed since he was laid to rest beneath the massive slab of marble brought from the distant Isle of Purbeck, one can still read the proud inscription, "Under this marble Shrine here enclo'd resteth the bones of that noble Lord Edmund Earl of Richmond, Father and Brother to Kings, the which departed out of this world in the year of Lord God a thousand four hundred fifty and six, the first day of the Month of November, on whose soul Almighty Jesus have mercy. Amen."

In the west bay on the north side of the Presbytery is **St. David's Shrine,** but from the time of the rebuilding of the cathedral by Bishop de Leia, in the twelfth century, the relics of the founder of the see were kept in a movable shrine. On the opposite side of the Presbytery is the effigy of Bishop Anslem. The oak sedilia near it are fifteenth-century work.

In the south aisle of the Presbytery is the tomb of *Bishop Gervase,* in the west bay on the north side. He had previously been Abbot of Talley. He died 1229. In the east bay, on the north side, is the supposed tomb of *Giraldus,* the historian, to whom reference has often been made. There are also the tombs of various unknown persons, and a slab to "Silvester Medicus," of whom nothing is known.

The *parclose screen* separating the Presbytery from the choir is unique.

In the west wall of **Bishop Vaughan's Chapel** (eastward of the Presbytery) is a recess with a cross formed of five crosses. It is thought that the lowest may be a relic of the cathedral which immediately preceded the structure erected by de Leia. The recess contained bones which may have been those of St. David.

On the south side of the **Lady Chapel** is the tomb of *Bishop Martyn,* the builder of the chapel. He died 1328. The tomb was probably erected by his successor, Bishop Gower. On the north side is the tomb of *Bishop Beck,* who died 1293. He was Lord Keeper the year before he was made a bishop, and was the founder of a college at Llandewi Brefi, in the valley of the Teifi, a few miles to the south of Tregaron. The Lady Chapel was restored by Dean Howell, and on the wall of its ante-chapel is a large bronze memorial of him. He was buried in the restored chapel of St. Nicholas.

In the south wall of the north transept is the shrine of St. Caradoc, who died 1124. Eastward of the transept is **St. Thomas à Becket's Chapel,** or the Chapter House. The ancient Chapter House was above it, and was approached by stairs from the aisle.

The only chapel which is still unroofed is Edward's Chapel in the south-east corner.

Next in point of interest to the cathedral are the ruins of the **Episcopal Palace,** westward of the cathedral, on the farther side of the Alan. The building was erected by Bishop Gower, about 1340, and was one of the finest edifices of its kind in the kingdom. Some two centuries after its foundation, it was virtually destroyed by Bishop Barlow, who stripped off its leaden roof to provide dowries for his five daughters, each of whom became the wife of a bishop. He did the same to the episcopal palace at Llawhaden, and so wrought the ruin of that. The most attractive feature of the relics at St. David's is the parapet, which has a beautiful open arcade under handsome stonework. The Great Hall, or Banqueting Hall, which is entered through a lofty porch, has a well-preserved rose window.

To the north of the cathedral are the scanty ruins of **St. Mary's College,** founded by Bishop Houghton and John of Gaunt in 1365. The principal portion of the remains is part of the chapel. Between the ruins and the cathedral was the Cloister.

The Cathedral, Palace and College were enclosed by a lofty embattled wall having four handsome gateways, but only that to which the Pebbles leads is now standing. The hill by the school affords the best view of the Cathedral and adjacent ruins.

In **Parc-y-Castell,** on the south-west of the city, are the mounds of a camp traditionally assigned to St. David, who needed it as a defence against a Gael named Boia, who is said to have occupied a rocky knoll a quarter of a mile westward. The mounds are soon sighted by going past the entrance to the ruined palace and then bearing to the left.

St. David, the patron saint of Wales, is said to have been of high birth. According to his legendary biographers, much that was miraculous attended his coming into the world and was ever present with him. But his claim to consideration does not need the aid of fiction. It may safely be asserted that he rendered valuable service to the British Church, and is entitled to a high position in its early annals. Giraldus terms him " a mirror and pattern to all, instructing both by word and example, excellent in his preaching, but still more so in his works. He was a doctrine to all, a guide to the religious, a life to the poor, a support to orphans, a

protection to widows, a father to the fatherless, a rule to monks, and a model to teachers ; becoming all to all, that so he might gain all to God." To this, his moral character, he added a high reputation for theological learning; and two productions—a Book of Homilies, and a Treatise against the Pelagians—have been ascribed to him.

St. David received his early education on the site of the city which bears his name. The place was then called Menevia (i.e. *main aw*, narrow water, frith or strait), and was a nursery of saints. Here, some years later, he founded a convent and the discipline which he enjoined in it is represented as of the most rigorous nature. Dyvrig, Archbishop of Caerleon, and consequently Primate of Wales, resigned his see to St. David, who removed the archiepiscopal residence to Menevia, which was henceforth called Ty Ddewi, "David's House," or St. David's. He died in the city named after him about the year 601, at a very advanced age.

The ancient liturgy in use before the Reformation in the diocese of Salisbury, or Sarum as it then was, contained the following collect for St. David's day, March 1 :—"Oh God, who by thy angel didst foretel thy blessed Confessor St. David, thirty years before he was born, grant unto us, we beseech thee, that celebrating his memory, we may, by his intercession, attain to joys everlasting."

The Cliffs, Whitesand Bay, St. David's Head, and Ramsey Island.

Visitors at St. David's should try to pass by the cliffs from Caerbwdy Bay to St. David's Head. The start can conveniently be made farther eastward if desired so as to embrace a small cliff castle just short of Porth-y-rhaw, 1½ miles east of Caerbwdy, and the cliffs can be followed along the north coast, but all the best scenery is included between the points first named.

Caerbwdy Bay lies about a mile to the south-east of St. David's, from which it can be reached by turning to the right nearly opposite the *Grove Hotel*, on the Haverfordwest Road, and following the cart-road past the windmill. From the quarry at Caerbwdy much of the building stone for the Cathedral was obtained. It is of a lovely purple colour.

The first part of our walk westward from Caerbwdy is round the promontory of **Pen-pleidian,** which separates Caerbwdy Bay from Caerfai Bay. At the extremity of the headland is a cliff castle, with four parallel embankments across the isthmus, and we get a fine view of the line of magnificent

cliffs, on which immense numbers of sea-birds breed. Due east are the **Green** and **Black Scars,** at the entrance to Solva Harbour. Towards the south-east is **Roch Castle,** 10 miles from St. David's and 6 from Haverfordwest; the eye also lights upon Wooltack Point and Skomer Island, on the southern side of St. Bride's Bay.

Caerfai Bay is a delightful and sheltered spot, and is unsurpassed as a bathing-place. From Caerfai, it will be remembered, was obtained some of the stone used in building the neighbouring Cathedral. It is redder than that from Caerbwdy.

If only a short walk and a glance at the coast are desired, the return to St. David's may be made after rounding the headland, by following a road which runs towards the north-west from Caerfai, passing Glanymor villa. When it forks, at the end of half a mile, the right branch should be taken, and that very soon leads into the track along which the outward journey was made.

Following the coast westward for less than a mile, we reach the ruins of **St. Non's Chapel,** and **St. Non's Well,** on the shore of **St. Non's Bay.** The saint to whom the chapel and well are dedicated was the mother of St. David, to whom she is said to have given birth on the spot where the chapel stands. The spring, or well, as it is called, is about 40 yards to the north-east of the building. It is covered by a small vault, and was formerly famed as a wishing well.

A path to the left of the chapel brings you to the lane near the Coastguard Station, almost due north of St. David's, which is less than a mile from this part of the coast.

Again going westward by the cliff-track, we arrive at **Chanters Seat,** the extremity of the headland on the west side of St. Non's Bay and commanding a fine view of that inlet. Then a small bay is skirted and we come to **Porth Clais,** a narrow inlet and small coal and lime-port at the mouth of the Alan river. Gasworks stand near the well where St. David is said to have been christened.

From the head of the inlet there is a fairly good road to St. David's, about a mile distant.

By still following the cliffs for a couple of miles we reach the head of **Porth Lisky Bay.** Here, protected from mutilation by a strong iron cage, is a stone which is supposed to be a

meteorite. Off the eastern horn of the bay is a chain of islets, of which the largest is known as **Careg Frân.** In the mouth of the bay are **Careg yr Esgob** (the Bishop's Rock) and other islets. To the west of the bay is a cove called **Porth Henllys,** the site of a disused water-mill. Here there is a choice of routes. A cart-track running through a farm offers a short cut to the opposite coast, and from the farm a road, 2 miles long, runs to St. David's, or the cliff-track can be followed round the headland. This route opens up views of Ramsey and the islets south of it.

Ramsey Island is of irregular shape. It is about 2 miles long and barely a mile across in its widest part. It is rarely visited, on account of the difficulty of the navigation of the channel separating it from the mainland. It has one farmhouse, and is noted for rabbits. A good proportion of the surface is either arable or pasture land. On the western side are two hills, of which the higher, called Llundain (i.e. London Rock or Mount), has an elevation of 446 feet. The cliffs along the south end of the island are exceedingly fine, but they can only be properly viewed from a boat. Woodcock visit Ramsey in October in great numbers, and both it and the adjacent islets are frequented in the breeding season by multitudes of sea-birds of various kinds. On Ramsey Island there are the ruins of two chapels. On the north side of the island trilobites are to be found.

On the western side of the headland, rather less than half a mile north of the cart-track from the farm referred to above, is a small cliff castle, called **Castell Heinif.** It is nearly in a line with large masses of rock on the top of the cliff. About a third of a mile farther north is **Porth Stinian,** a lifeboat station and the site of **St. Justinian's Chapel** (Capel Stinian). St. Justinian, hermit and martyr, who tradition says was the confessor of St. David, lived upon Ramsey until he was murdered. Then his body drifted to the mainland, and was buried near the spot where it reached the shore. A chapel also was erected there and became a place of pilgrimage. It was rebuilt by Bishop Vaughan, who held the see from 1509–1522, and the ruins now seen are the remains of his building. The outside measurement is about 50 feet by 25 feet. The site of the ruins is connected with St. David's by a road about 2 miles long.

Continuing along the coast, we very soon reach the point which affords the best view of Ramsey Sound, and in half a mile or so arrive on the shore of **Whitesand Bay,** a large

inlet which the natives call Porthmawr, or the Great Bay. On its southern side is **Porth Seli,** a small cove at a point where we go down almost to the shore. A little beyond it is **Ogof Golchfa,** where are caves accessible at low-water. We can cross the sands, or we can make our way round the bay by a cart-track at the foot of the **Burrows,** an undulating sandy tract that makes an ideal course for golfers. There are natural bunkers everywhere, and soft, dry elastic turf. Just south of the road that runs from the bay to St. David's, about 2 miles to the south-east, is the site of the legendary Roman city of Menevia.

Rather more than a mile farther is **St. David's Head,** a rugged promontory that was once defended by a double rampart of stones, now broken down. The head is also the site of several cromlechs and hut circles. Plans of the headland fortress and relics obtained from the locality may be seen in Tenby museum. The promontory affords a good view of Whitesand Bay, of the rocky coast, and of a cluster of seven insulated rocks called the **Bishop and his Clerks.**

From the headland we can reach St. David's by passing over **Carn Llidi,** the highest of the masses of rock eastward of the head. It has an elevation of 595. The climb to the top is a stiff one. A gulley on the southern side should be used in making the descent.

FISHGUARD AND GOODWICK.

Situation.—On the coast, due north of Haverfordwest, and to the north-east of St. David's.
Approach.—By the main line of the Great Western Railway.
Distances.—Fishguard to St. David's, 16 miles; Haverfordwest, 15 miles; Newport, 7 miles; Cardigan, 17 miles; Rosslare (Ireland), 54 nautical miles.
Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.
Post and Telegraph.—Offices at Fishguard and Goodwick.
Railway Station.—At Goodwick, 1¼ miles from Fishguard ('bus *6d.*).

Fishguard is a quaint little place on a fine bay in an interesting district. It consists of an upper and a lower town, about half a mile apart. The upper contains the hotels, but turns its back on the beautiful bay. The lower is at the mouth of a small stream called the *Gwaen.* A "monstrously steep road" affords the only safe means of making the "prodigious drop from the sea-coast ledge down to the harbour," and it gives "as violent a change of climate as of outlook." In the sheltered spot, myrtles, hydrangeas, fuchsias and other flowers and shrubs of southern climes grow luxuriantly in the open air.

Goodwick (*goodick*) is prettily situated, 1½ miles to the north-west of Fishguard, in a sheltered spot on the west side of Fishguard Bay. In the midst of pleasant grounds on the face of the cliff is the *Fishguard Bay Hotel*, formerly a private residence. It is a prominent object from the railway, and from its windows visitors may enjoy a delightful panorama of the hills and cliffs of Fishguard, across the bay, stretching out seawards in the bold outline of Dinas Head, with the dimmest vision of Cardigan Head in the hazy distance. Extending from the foot of its cliff is a long, wide, sandy beach that makes an excellent bathing ground.

The extension of the Great Western Line to Fishguard Bay and the construction there of the magnificent harbour which forms the port on the English side for the Great Western route to and from Ireland, have led to the rapid growth of Goodwick. Many villa residences, commodious houses, and several shops have been erected to meet the demand for accommodation.

Fishguard Bay is sufficiently deep to float the largest Atlantic liners, is free from shoals and bars, and is sheltered from the north by works undertaken by the Great Western Railway Company, so that it provides splendid accommodation for the magnificent turbine steamers that convey passengers to and from a corresponding harbour at Rosslare, on the coast of Ireland. The passage between the two ports occupies only 2¾ hours.

The **Breakwater** runs out 2,000 feet across the bay from the Goodwick shore. It is a very massive structure, being a rubble mound with a concrete parapet, which is 80 feet above the bed of the sea. The base is over 300 feet wide. Along more than two-thirds of its length, the water is 58 feet deep. Between 650 and 700 tons of rock were required to make each foot of the length of the breakwater. The material was obtained from the cliffs on the Goodwick side of the bay, where its removal provided the space necessary for the Quay, the Harbour Station, and some 6 miles of sidings. The breaking up of the cliffs was effected by the use of high explosives in deep holes bored by pneumatic drills into the rock, or by the firing of charges of 6 or 7 tons of gunpowder placed at the ends of tunnels driven in at the foot of the cliffs. The largest amount brought down at one time by this latter method was 113,000 tons.

The **Quay Wall,** 1,110 feet long, built of 5,000 concrete

blocks, each weighing from 6 to 10 tons, is furnished with the most approved appliances for the passenger, cattle, and goods traffic. There is a low level gallery for discharging cattle at the berths provided for this class of traffic, while passengers land or embark at a higher level, at other berths.

The trains are drawn up in the Harbour Station, immediately beside the steamers, and for dealing with the passengers' luggage and general cargoes there are several powerful electric cranes.

Historic Days.

February 22, 1797, is memorable as being that on which the last invasion by an enemy was made on the shores of Great Britain. At ten o'clock in the morning three ships-of-war and a lugger were seen to pass "the Bishops," a group of rocks off St. David's Head. The vessels sailed under English colours, but the gentleman by whom they were discovered had been a sailor in his youth, and readily recognized them as French men-of-war with troops on board. He at once despatched one of his domestics to alarm the inhabitants of St. David's, while he himself watched the enemy's motions along the coast towards Fishguard. The fort at that town was about to fire a salute to the British flag when the English colours were struck on board the fleet, and the French ensign hoisted instead. Messengers were at once despatched in all directions to give notice of a hostile invasion. The numbers of the enemy were grossly exaggerated, the utmost alarm prevailed, and vehicles of all kinds were employed in transporting articles of value into the interior, while men gathered from all the countryside to meet the enemy, who, however, landed unopposed at Careg Gwastad Point, in the peninsula of Pen Caer, some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the west of Fishguard. The hostile force consisted of 600 regular troops and 800 convicts and sweepings of the French prisons, and was commanded by one Tate, an Irish-American in the French service. On the day following the landing, the ships that had brought the force sailed unexpectedly away, and thus the invaders were cut off from all means of retreat. On the same day all the British forces that could be collected arrived on the scene and formed in battle array on the road near Fishguard, under the command of Lord Cawdor. He had a little troop of yeomanry and about three hundred of the Cardigan and Pembrokeshire Militia. There were also assembled more than two thousand miners, peasants, and gentry armed with muskets, swords, pistols, scythe blades fixed upright at the end of stakes, mattocks, spades, hay-forks, axes, reaping-hooks, and other primitive weapons.

Preparatory to his contemplated attack, Lord Cawdor rode out at the head of his yeomanry to within half a mile of the invader's camp. The French officers, deceived by the splendid chargers and handsome uniform of the yeomen, thought the party must consist of the English general and his staff, and presuming that so large a suite must belong to a proportionately large body of troops, it was resolved to treat for a surrender. Their belief in the presence of a large force of soldiers was strengthened by another misconception. Several hundred women had followed their husbands, dressed in the national costume, red mantles and high beaver hats. One of the gentlemen present, struck by their resemblance at a distance to a body of soldiers, persuaded them to ascend the B'gny hill, appear on the summit where they would be in full view of the enemy, descend in close order, and disappearing at the bottom, reascend and continue the manoeuvre. This they did for a couple of hours, until they were dead beat. General Tate and his staff, knowing that scarlet was the British uniform, concluded that large reinforcements had arrived. On account of the part which the red cloaks had played, they became known as "the Frenchmen's Terror."

On the morning of the 25th, the enemy laid down their arms, and were marched under escort to various prisons at Pembroke, Haverfordwest, Milford, and Carmarthen. About a hundred of those who were confined at Pembroke, aided by a couple of Welsh girls who had formed an attachment to two of their number, "broke prison." A party of about twenty cut out Lord Cawdor's yacht, which was lying close by, and made good their escape to France. The girls accompanied them and became the wives of the men for whose sake they had been false to their country. The resentment against them soon died out, and during the short-lived Peace of Amiens they revisited Wales and met with a cordial reception from their relatives and old friends.

The depredations committed by the invaders were of a trivial description. They stole a silver chalice, which was afterwards returned; sent a bullet through a grandfather's clock, and carried off all the victuals and strong drink they could lay their hands on. In the few scrimmages which took place the French had three killed and as many wounded, while of the Welsh two were killed and one was wounded.

Many wonderful stories are told in reference to this invasion. One of them concerns a masculine-looking woman, named Jemima Nicholas. Having armed herself with a pitchfork she boldly marched to meet the foe. Espying twelve Frenchmen in a field she advanced towards them, induced them to surrender, and then conducted them to the guardhouse at

Fishguard. At the centenary banquet in July, 1897, it was decided to erect a fitting memorial to her near her last resting-place, and the following inscription may now be read by all who visit Fishguard Church :—

"In memory of Jemima Nicholas of this town, 'The Welsh Heroine,' who boldly marched to meet the French invaders who landed on our shores in February, 1797. She died in Main Street, July, 1832, aged 82 years. At the date of the invasion she was forty-seven years old, and lived thirty-five years after the event. Erected by subscriptions collected at the Centenary Banquet, July 6, 1897."

EXCURSIONS FROM FISHGUARD AND GOODWICK.

The excursions that can be made from either Fishguard or Goodwick include visits to—

The Preceley Mountains,

'the one really extensive bit of wild mountainous upland in Pembrokeshire." It is the mother of most of its streams and a great landmark from every part of the county. The railroad to Fishguard Bay clambers through and over it. The train should be taken to *Rosebush*, a small village 10 miles up the line, at the foot of Cwm Cerwin, or **Preceley Top,** the highest point, 1,760 feet above the level of the sea. The path to the summit is unmistakable. The ascent can be comfortably made in about three-quarters of an hour. Boggy ground here and there forms the only impediment. The view from the summit is one of the most extensive in South Wales. On a clear day it embraces Lundy Island and the coast of North Devon, the coast of Ireland, and the Brecon mountains.

Preceley is the standing weather-glass of all the country-side.

"When Percellye weareth a hatte
All Pembrokeshire weete of that,"

runs an old rhyme.

To Cilrhedyn Bridge,

3½ miles from Fishguard, at a beautiful spot in the valley of the *Gwaen*. The bridge should be crossed and the road to the right should be followed for a short distance.

From the upper town the route is to the left, by the *Cambrian Inn*, and then straight ahead. The excursion can be made to include Llanllawer Church and the Field of the Dead by taking the route from the lower town. The valley of the Gwaen is followed for a couple of miles, and then a slight detour will take us to **Llanllawer Church.** The Field of the Dead (Parc-y-Meirw) is but a short distance farther. It contains eight monoliths, of which four are standing. They

are twelve to sixteen feet in height. The distance from them to Cilrhedyn Bridge is only a mile.

To Pen-caer.

Pen-caer, the peninsula on the west side of Fishguard Bay, abounds in fallen cromlechs. They cannot easily be discovered without the aid of local guides, but there are various other features less difficult to light upon that may serve as the nominal object of a pleasant ramble. On the headland of Penanglas, in the immediate vicinity of Goodwick, is a ledge of rock displaying a stratum of basaltic columns, popularly called, on account of their appearance, torthau ceiniogau ("penny loaves"). Two miles to the north-west of Goodwick is **Llanwnda Church,** of which Giraldus Cambrensis was once rector. The sanctus bell cote is still in position. The chalice and paten that are used were "looted" by the French, but recovered from them. Eastward of the Llanwnda Cove is **Carreg-gwastad Point,** the landing-place of the French invaders. At **Strumble Head,** the north-west corner of the peninsula, is grand cliff scenery. To the south of Strumble Head, about midway between that point and St. Nicholas, is **Carn Fawr** (Great Cairn), a hill on which are the remains of an ancient fortress similar to that which crowned Penmaenmawr, but smaller. At **St. Nicholas Church** is an ancient stone inscribed TUNCCETA SORDAARIHIC CIT. Half a mile south of the church is a cromlech locally known as **Samson's Quoit.** On the coast to the west of this is **Abermawr,** a Transatlantic telegraph station, while a little west of the peninsula is **Abercastle,** which must be mentioned because half a mile from it, on the coast road to St. David's, is the **Long House Cromlech,** the finest of such relics in this part of Wales. The capstone is 18 feet long, 9½ feet wide, and 4½ feet thick. It rests on six supports. It is about 9 miles from Goodwick, *viâ* Manor Owen and Mathry.

To Dinas and Dinas Head.

From the lower town at Fishguard the road ascends, at first very abruptly and then more gradually, to a bare rocky tract that overlooks **Newport Bay,** with Dinas Head on the western side of it. Thence the route lies through the hamlet of **Bwlch Mawr** (where there are traces of a camp on the right-hand side of the road) to **Rhos Dinas,** 4 miles. There turn to the left at the smithy, and you soon come to **Dinas New Church,** built, as recorded in the epitaph of a late rector, "in consequence of the encroachment of the sea upon the old church." Below the church there is a choice of routes. The road to the left leads, in about half a mile, to the west end of a natural fosse separating Dinas Head from the mainland, and

at that point it is open to the pedestrian to go on to the Head or to go eastward to Dinas, which is at the east end of the entrenchment. The headland is nearly all enclosed, but the highest ground at the northern extremity is unfenced and commands a view which more than repays one for the walk to the spot.

By taking the alternative route below the new church, turning first to the right and almost immediately to the left, one is led through a "Devonshire" lane to **Dinas,** getting during the descent a glimpse of the fosse on the left hand, and on the right hand a view of Newport Bay. Dinas is a hamlet prettily situated amid orchards on the margin of a small cove.

To Newport.

On the coast, 7 miles eastward of Fishguard by the direct route, which is that for Dinas as far as Rhos Dinas, where keep straight on. Shortly before reaching Newport one gets a very pretty view of the town and the bay.

An alternative route lies mainly along the Gwaen valley. This is extremely picturesque but measures 11 miles. At Cilrhedyn Bridge (*see* p. 158) it crosses to the north side of the stream, and then passes **Llanychllwydog Church** and **Pont Faen.** Just beyond the latter a track on the left goes almost due north over high ground (Llanllawer Mountain). At the first fork (soon reached) keep to the right. A couple of miles farther go to the left and almost immediately to the right. On striking the main road (a little short of Newport) go to the right.

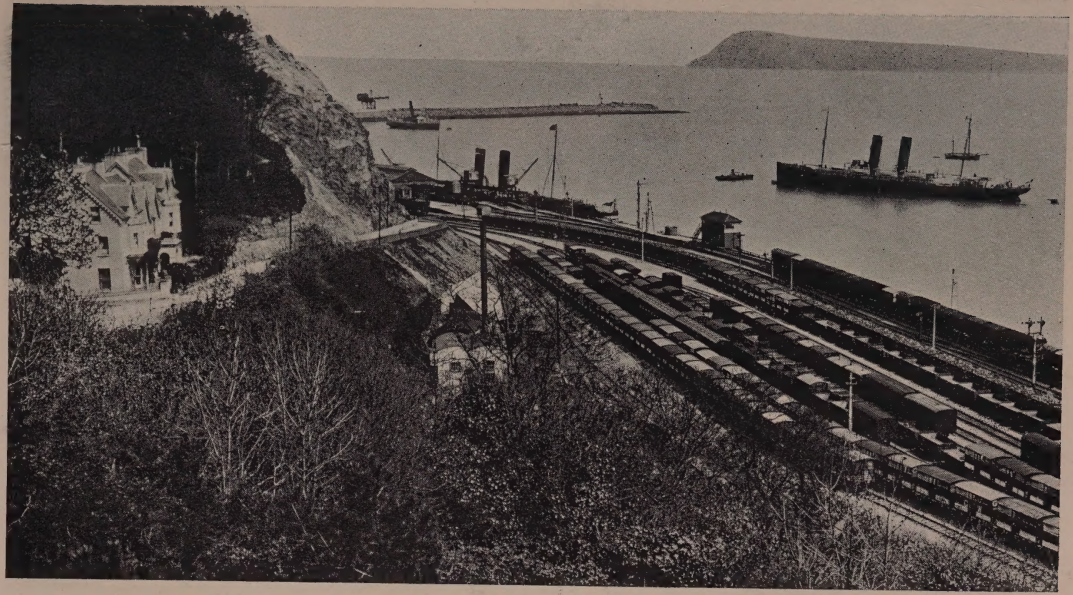
A **'bus** runs daily between Newport and *Crymmych Arms Station,* 11 miles in connection with the mail trains. It leaves Newport in the morning and returns in the afternoon.

Conveyances carrying the mails run from Goodwick Post Office about 12.30 and 4 o'clock. A conveyance also meets the 2 o'clock express at Fishguard Harbour Station.

NEWPORT (Pembrokeshire).

Approach.—*See* above. Buses also run daily between Newport and Fishguard, leaving in the morning and returning in the afternoon.

Newport is a small town (population about 1,300) near the mouth of the River *Nevern.* Its Welsh name signifies "Town on the Sand." It offers excellent sea-bathing, and is patronized by holiday-makers who desire a cheap and quiet watering-place. It contains a **Castle** founded by a Norman settler and restored in modern times by Sir T. D. Lloyd Bart., a lineal descendant of the first baron. The **Church** (St. Mary's) is a fine building in the Decorated style, but it was originally a Norman structure, and the original font is still within it. The tower is not in line with the nave. Just outside the town is a small cromlech. It stands in a field



FISHGUARD HARBOUR.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,] *[Dundee.*

CARDIGAN BRIDGE.

on the left hand, about two hundred yards down a lane from the fine residence called "Llysmeddyg."

About 2½ miles east of Newport is the **Llech-y-Drybedd Cromlech.** The best route to it is along the Cardigan coast road for 2½ miles, and then to the right to Tre-dryssi Farn.

Within an easy walk of Newport is the **Pentre Evan Cromlech,** a much finer relic than the above, and now protected by an iron fence. The capstone is about 16 feet long, by 8 feet wide and 2½ feet thick, and is supported by three uprights from 7 to 8 feet high. The route to it runs along the main road eastward for 1½ miles, then goes up a lane on the right, and at the end of 1½ miles again goes to the right, running close to Iet-wen and on to Penwern-ddu, nearly half a mile farther, from which the cromlech is distant about 150 yards to the west.

Carningli Common is the centre of a most charming walk from Newport. From the castle follow the road that runs towards the south-east into the Clydach Valley, and at the end of about a mile ascend the hills (Carningli Common) on the right. The highest ground affords a fine view of the Gwaen Valley and Preceley Mountains and of the rugged coastline. On the eastern summit are traces of a camp; on the western slope there are hut circles. The ramble can be made circular by taking any of the paths on the north side of the hill.

But the place of most interest in the vicinity of Newport is **Nevern,** 2 miles away, in a narrow valley some hundreds of feet below the road from Newport to Cardigan. "A place of distinction as well as the abode of rural peace and beauty. An ancient capacious church, with massive battlemented tower of grey stone; a wide-spreading graveyard on the hill slope; an avenue of yews, so old and thick that not a glimmer of sunshine could ever pierce them; a ribbon of green meadows, with a buoyant trout stream sparkling through it; and a fine wealth of ancient timber, clamorous with rooks, and above the tall tree-tops the cone-shaped peak of Carningli, with its dark crest of crags rising in really majestic fashion into the sky. "Such," says Mr. Bradley, "is Nevern as I recall it," and those who see it must testify that he carried away a true impression. The **Church,** for the most part Norman, stands on the site of one that was erected in the sixth century. Its tower extends across the full width, at the western end. Before the porch stands one of the finest Celtic crosses in all Pembrokeshire. It is 12½ feet high and bears the name of **St. Brynach's Stone**—Brynach being an Irish saint who made his home at Newport as far back as the time of St. David. On the "pilgrim's way" north of the church is a cross cut in the rock, with a kneeling-place at its foot. In very olden days Nevern was the capital of that division of Wales known as Kemmaes, until it was supplanted by Newport. A little above the *Trewern Arms* the rippling stream is crossed by the Pont-y-

Baldwin—a name reminiscent of the Crusades. George Owen, the author of the *Description of Pembrokeshire*, lived at Henllys, about a mile and a half to the east of Nevern, and his account of the district and its folklore may still be read with interest.

Fishguard to St. David's.

From Fishguard to St. David's the distance is 16 miles along an uninteresting but easy road passing **Jordanston, Mathry** and **Croesgoch.** (From Mathry a detour adding 7 miles to the journey will enable the traveller to see the Long House Cromlech. The branch road from Mathry runs to Abercastle and thence, parallel to the main road, through Trevine to Llanrian, where it turns inland to Croesgoch, 6 miles from St. David's). On entering St. David's the road leads to New Street and the *City Hotel*, or by continuing the direct line one comes to the City Cross.

CARDIGAN.

Situation.—On the southern border of its county, on the Teifi, 3 miles from the open sea.
Approach.—By the Great Western main line to Whitland Junction and thence by a branch line.
Distances.—27½ miles by rail from Whitland Junction, 10 miles from Newport *viâ* Nevern or *viâ* St. Dogmael's, and 12 miles *viâ* Eglwys-wrw.
Golf.—*See* p. 171.
Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.
Population.—3,500.

Cardigan is a typical Welsh market-town. It has little in itself to interest the tourist, but is a convenient centre from which to visit places of interest in the neighbourhood. Most of the streets are narrow, steep, and irregular. The chief thoroughfare is High Street with its continuation, Pendre. A few craft of one or two hundred tons may be seen in the harbour; a bar at the mouth of the river prevents the entrance of larger vessels. The ancient bridge is a good view-point. Prominent features of the panorama are the ruins of the once famous castle, St. Mary's Church, and St. Dogmael's, on the Pembrokeshire side of the river. The **Castle** was founded in the time of Henry II. by Rhys ap Gryffydd, Prince of South Wales. The Royalists vainly tried to hold it during the Civil War, and when it passed into the possession of the Parliamentarians, it was rendered incapable of further offence. The ruins stand on a woody knoll. Not far from the Castle is the **Parish Church,** a very plain building, devoid of any noticeable features other than the pinnacles and battlements of the chancel, and

CARDIGAN BAY
English Miles
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
20 Fathoms Line
10 Fathoms Line
5 Fathoms Line
Trawling Grounds
Outer Patch
Gyntelin Patches
Harp Rock
Carn Gynfelin
ABERYSTWYTH
ABERAYRON
CARDIGAN
NEW QUAY
Llanrhystyd
Llansaintffraid
Llanddewi Aberarth
Llanarth
Llandysiliogo
Llangranog
Penbryn
Aberporth
Blaenporth
Tremain
Verwig
Cardigan Bay
Port Cardigan
Mount
Llangoedmore
Troed yr aur
Penparcog
Llechryd
Llandyfriog
Llanfihangel Penbedw
Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn
Llanbadarn Fawr
Capel Bangor
Llanfihangel y Creuddyn
Llanilar
Rhostie
Llanfihangel Lledrod
Llangwyddon
Llanbadarn Tref Eglwys
Blaen Penal
Llanbadarn Odwyn
Capel Bethel Llwyd
Capel Garmeli
Llanddewi Brefi
Llangeitho
Llangybi
Silian
Llanfair Clydogan
Cellan
Llanwenog
Llanwenen
Llanybydder
Llanfihangel Ystrad
Llanllwchaiarn
New Quay
Llanina
Llanllwchaiarn
Llanarchaeron
Rhos Hamming
Penuwch
Nantcwillt
Dihewid
Cilie Morgan
Llwyn Dafydd
Llwyn Mydrelin
Llwyn Penson
Llwyn Perthog
Llwyn Llechryn
Llwyn Llwyn
Llwyn Llwyn
Llwyn Llwy

the stepped buttresses of the tower. Adjoining it is a fine avenue of elms, and beside it, on a site once occupied by a priory, is the house in which Mrs. Katherine Philipps, who lived in the reign of Charles II., wrote the once famous *Letters of Orinda*. At the top of the town is a **Public Park** commemorating the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria.

WALKS AND EXCURSIONS FROM CARDIGAN.

To Gwbert and Aberporth.

An hour's walk down the river takes us to **Gwbert** (*goobert*)-**on-Sea.** It can be reached by a new road along the estuary, or by the shore at low-water. It has a good beach, which is faced by another at the *Poppit*, on the opposite side of the estuary.

From Gwbert there is a fine walk on a grand line of basaltic cliffs on the Cardiganshire coast, past **Cardigan Island** to the **Mount,** 4 miles. Another 4 miles would take us to **Aberporth,** a secluded nook much in favour with artists by reason of its romantic scenery. This pretty spot can also be reached by cyclists, taking the main road to Aberayron for between 4 and 5 miles, and there following a branch road to the left, making a total journey of about 7 miles.

To Traethsaith

This little nook has become quite a favourite with visitors, so that the number of houses is rapidly increasing. It is situated a mile from Aberporth, and has a fine stretch of firm, level sand which at low water extends all the way to Pembryn, another mile.

To St. Dogmael.

Scattered about the hillside on the Pembrokeshire shore of the estuary of the *Teifi*, about a mile and a half from Cardigan, is the picturesque fishing-village of **St. Dogmael.**

It can be reached by crossing the bridge, and some 50 yards farther turning to the right, or by a *ferry* (½*d.*), beyond Net Pool Cemetery, approached from the Shire Hall by following a street to a bridge over the Mwldan brook, crossing the stream and then bearing to the left.

St. Dogmael contains the ruins of a large **Benedictine Abbey,** founded by Martin de Tours, one of the followers of William the Conqueror. The remains are in the private grounds of the vicarage, and can only be examined by special permission. Behind the vicarage are the ruins of the refectory, with the western door still perfect. The shaft of a cross and a stone with an Ogham inscription that stand here are alien to the Abbey, having been brought from elsewhere. The principal

remains of the monastic church are the west gable, the north wall of the nave and the north transept.

The **Church** is a plain, modern building in a picturesque burial-ground.

To Kilgerran.

Some 3 miles up the river is **Kilgerran,** famed for the picturesque remnant of its castle. It can be reached by carriage road, circuitous and uninteresting ; by rail, 3½ miles (the castle is but a quarter of a mile from the station) ; or by rowing up the river. This last is decidedly the best approach, for above Cardigan the river flows in a contracted channel between lofty hills that rise abruptly from it and are covered with verdure and foliage from base to summit, and one looks up from below at the grand old border fortress, which crowns the summit of an almost precipitous rock projecting into the stream. "I have never," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "seen ruins more happily combined with rocks, wood and water, a more pleasing composition, or a more captivating landscape." Turner made a picture of the spot ; Wilson, the eminent landscape painter, introduced its beauties into more than one of his compositions, and it is the scene of Warton's poem, *King Arthur's Grave.* The **Castle** is said to date from about 1223. It does not appear to have been of historical importance, and it has succumbed to the shocks of time and the devastating hand of man, who has regarded its ancient walls as a convenient quarry, so that there now remain but two massive round towers and a lofty wall of rough stone, pierced by sundry doorways and windows.

About a quarter of a mile from the castle is the **Church,** which has been rebuilt. In its graveyard is a good Ogham stone. From its present appearance it is difficult to believe that Kilgerran was once a "borough town," with its portreeve and aldermen, who toasted each newly elected burgess in strong Welsh ale, the corporation horn used on these festive occasions holding fully a pint and a half.

Cardigan to Newcastle Emlyn.

A public conveyance, making three journeys each way, runs every week day. *See* Great Western Railway Time Table.

This is a 10-mile journey along the valley of the Teifi that for charm of scenery is accounted one of the best in all South Wales.

Very soon after leaving Cardigan the road and river go rather far apart, through the stream making a great bend, but at **Llechryd,** 3 miles from the town, they come together again, opposite the beautiful park of **Castle Maelgwyn,** and for the rest of the way, and for several miles beyond our goal,

keep close company. Through a well-wooded glen we reach **Cenarth,** 7 miles from Cardigan, the site of a salmon leap.

Newcastle Emlyn

is finely situated on the Teifi, and is the terminus of a branch line of the railway between Carmarthen and Aberystwyth. It consists mainly of one large street, which runs at right angles to the high-road, and is connected by a bridge with Adpar, on the north side of the river, in which good trout and salmon-fishing can be enjoyed. Occupying a fine situation and commanding a delightful prospect are the ruins of a once famous **Castle,** built by Sir Rhys ap Thomas, who made it his frequent residence. As it superseded an older structure, it became known as Newcastle. Since the time of the Civil War it has fallen into decay. A gateway 14 feet high, flanked on each side by an octagon tower, acts as a frame to a grand landscape. The site of the castle is almost surrounded by the river which, on approaching the old stronghold, suddenly turns back, flows for a considerable distance almost parallel to its former course, and then sweeps round once more towards the sea, flowing to it past the other side of the castle. The town is the birthplace of the popular Welsh novelist, Allen Raine (Mrs. Beynon Puddicombe).

NEW QUAY.

Situation.—On the coast, 23 miles from Aberystwyth and 20 miles from Cardigan.
Approach.—Newquay is approached from Cardigan by a branch road from the *Synod Inn*, 16 miles from the county town. Coming from Aberystwyth, a branch road to it leaves the main road at Llanarth, some 3 miles on the north side of the *Synod Inn*.
Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.
Motor Cars.—A motor-car service established by the Great Western Railway Company gives Newquay communication, four times a day each way, with **Llandyssil,** a small town pleasantly situated on the Teifi, having a station on the Newcastle Emlyn branch line. The two places are 15 miles apart.

New Quay is an attractive seaside resort that, by reason of its distance from a railway, has been less patronized than it deserves. It offers good sea-bathing, boating, sea-fishing, and cheap lodging accommodation. The principal houses in which apartments can be obtained stand in six terraces on the cliffs. From them there is a fine view of Cardigan Bay and of the mountains of North Wales. The genial character of the climate is attested by the vegetation. There is a good **Harbour,** provided with a stone pier 200 feet in length. The coast is extremely picturesque.

To the west is **Craig-yr-Adar**—the Birds' Rock—at certain

times the haunt of innumerable sea-birds. In the cliffs near this rock are several caves. The most remarkable is one known as *Ogof Deuben*, or Two-head Cave, because it has two openings. In calm weather a boat can enter the cave by one aperture, and leave by the other. To the west of the village also is **New Quay Head,** which rises to a height of 300 feet above the level of the sea and commands a splendid prospect. On the coast, some 7 or 8 miles to the south-west of the village is **Llangranog,** "one of the most curious little watering-places in the kingdom." It is situated in a very narrow glen with precipitous cliffs on the very margin of the sea. On the north side is a singular cape called *Ynys Llochtyn*, from which the coastline in both directions can be seen for a very long distance. Llangranog can be approached by road from the *New Inn*, on the Cardigan-Aberystwyth Road, 11 miles from Cardigan. Cyclists should leave their machines at the inn, as much of the descent to the bottom of the ravine is quite unrideable. Another excursion that can be made from New Quay is to Aberayron, 6 miles by the cliffs, or 7½ miles by road.

ABERAYRON.

A Great Western Railway motor-car service gives Aberayron communication with Aberystwyth, 16 miles, and a similar service connects it with Lampeter 15½ miles inland.

A small port and health-resort at the mouth of the River *Ayron*, or Aeron, a little stream that contains salmon and sewin in their season and trout at all times, but less abundantly than formerly. It is a neat-looking town, with good facilities for bathing on a shingly shore, and is much patronized by miners. It occupies a level site, and its streets run in straight lines. The whole place is comparatively modern, for it only dates from about 1807, when the two piers that protect the harbour were built. On the beach, about 600 yards north of the harbour, is a portion of a semicircular fort called *Castell Cadwgan*. The passage from one side of the harbour to the other can be made by means of a curious conveyance called the *carriage bach*, a wooden box that runs on wheels on a rope bridge. Only two persons can cross at the same time. The fare is a halfpenny.

Seven miles from Aberayron, on the road to Aberystwyth, is **Llanrhysted,** a quiet little place with an exceptionally thick church spire.

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NEW QUAY, CARDIGAN.

LAMPETER.

Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.
Motor Cars to Aberayron.

Lampeter, or Llanbedr, signifies "the Church of St. Peter," but Lampeter Pont Stephen is the full name of the place, the addition being due to the presence of a bridge said to have been erected in the reign of King Stephen. The town is midway between Carmarthen and Aberystwyth, and has a station on the Great Western line connecting them. The situation is delightful. It is on a gentle eminence, beside the *Teifi*. Lampeter is a corporate town with mayor, aldermen and councillors. By reason of its central position and the facility of approach it is used for meetings of county authorities and political associations, and it is an assize town. It is also noted for its fairs. The horse fairs held in Lampeter are the largest in the country. By many the town is known as the site of **St. David's College,** founded in 1822 for the education of students desirous of taking Holy Orders in the Anglican Church but unable to bear the expense of residence at the University of Oxford or Cambridge. From fifty to sixty-five pounds a year will cover all the necessary expenses of the undergraduates while in residence. The College has full power of granting degrees. Residence is necessary at Lampeter, and three years cover the full course. As Lampeter College is affiliated to both the old universities, students following an "honours" course and getting a degree here can then proceed to Oxford or Cambridge and there obtain a degree after only two years' residence. Some of the students are sons of ardent Nonconformists, for it is a tradition among the non-conforming farmers of Cardiganshire to put one son into the Established Church. Another may become a Free Church minister, and he will go to Aberystwyth or to Bala for his education. The older buildings of St. David's College are practically a reproduction of an Oxford College, except that they are in less costly style. There are gate towers, a quad, chapel, dining-hall, buttery, library, and undergraduates' rooms.

Ten miles north of Lampeter is the village of **Tregaron.** Close to it is a bog which is probably unique in England and Wales. It is a "flat, sad, sombre Irish bog, where the turf-cutters have been at work for ages, and it is haunted by grouse and snipe, ducks and teal. It might be a bit of the Bog of Allan imported direct from King's County."

ABERYSTWYTH.

Bathing.—Family and separate bathing. Machines, *6d.* each person, *9d.* for two. Salt-water Swimming Baths for ladies and gentlemen, and private baths in Bath Street. Hot and Cold Sea-water Baths, as well as electric and medicated bath, are provided on the Terrace, and Turkish baths, steam, vapour, Russian, and needle baths are also to be had in the town.

Boats.—Maximum fares fixed by the local authorities, but private bargains can be made with the boatmen. *Rowing-boats*, four persons or under, *2s.* per hour.

Steam and *motor launches*, *1s.* per hour. *Sailing-boats*, carrying from 32 to 40 passengers, *1s.* per hour.

Distances from Large Towns.

	Miles.		Miles.		Miles.
Birmingham (G.W.)	124	London (G.W.)	253	Liverpool	152
Do. (L. & N.W.)	139	Do. (L. & N.W.)	244	Shrewsbury	80

Distances by Rail to Places of Interest.

	Miles.		Miles.		Miles.
Aberdovey	23	Devil's Bridge	12	Rheidol Falls	9
Barmouth	39	Dolgelley	45	Strata Florida	14
Borth	8	Llanfihangel	6	Towyn	27
Corris	26	Machynlleth	21		

Excursions.—Over a hundred coaches, char-a-bancs, and other conveyances assemble on the Promenade morning and afternoon. The fare for a day's outing of 30 miles is only *3s.*, and *2s.* is the charge for an afternoon drive of 20 miles.

Fishing.—Excellent sea and river fishing.

Golf.—There is a capital sporting eighteen-hole course at Borth, 8 miles distant by rail. Frequent trains and special fares for golfers.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Musical Entertainments.—A band performs on the Promenade at certain hours of the day. Pierrots give morning, afternoon and evening entertainments on a portion of the Castle grounds. Outdoor entertainments are given in the Elysian Grove. Excellent London companies give concerts, operas and dramatic performances in the Coliseum (Terrace Road) and at the New Market Hall (Little Darkgate Street). Daily entertainments are also given at the Pier Head and in the Pier Pavilion.

Population.—Exceeds 8,000.

Public Free Library and Reading Room.—In Pier Street the Reading Room is open to visitors free of charge, and books can be obtained from the Library on payment of a small fee.

Tennis and Croquet.—In well-kept grounds near the railway station and at the back of the Town Hall.

ABERYSTWYTH is the principal west-coast terminus of the Cambrian Railways Company, which has done much for the development of the town as a fashionable watering-place. It has been called the Brighton of Wales, and the name gives some indication of its character. It is the largest town in Cardiganshire, and the oldest watering-place of importance on the Welsh coast. It is charmingly situated on a crescent-shaped inlet midway along the coast of Cardigan Bay, and at the mouth of a wide valley which approaches the coast from the hilly country far eastward. It is thus flanked on the north and south by ranges of lofty hills. A large part of the site of the town belongs to the

Corporation. The rents received by the Corporation amount to over £3,000 a year, and that revenue is mainly expended in making the town more attractive to visitors. Dr. Andrew Wilson, writing in 1905, said, "Aberystwyth is placed in a 'happy valley' in truth. Sea in front and mountain and valley behind, pure air everywhere and a fair prospect all round—what more can the heart of man desire in a health resort?"

The town stands on a slope, on soil of a gravelly nature. It is well drained, and has an abundant supply of water, which Dr. Franklin, the well-known analyst, has pronounced one of the purest in the kingdom.

The Climate

of Aberystwyth is of first importance to those who think of resorting to the place for health or pleasure. Although the town is protected from cold blasts by the neighbouring hills, the high grounds are not near enough to be oppressive or to impede the free circulation of air. The climate is dry and bracing, and the amount of sunshine recorded is very high. The average annual rainfall is only about 26 inches, an inch in excess of that of London, while the rainfall of Wales as a whole is 45 inches.

Overlooking the bay is—

The Promenade,

concreted from end to end, well provided with seats, and gay with flower-beds. Along it extends, for upwards of a mile, a fine array of residences, hotels, etc.

The Beach

is composed of dark sand and pebbles. The sea is remarkably clear and pure, and does not ebb more than a few yards.

In Bath Street are **Swimming Baths** which are much appreciated by visitors who are prevented by delicate health or the inclemency of the weather from bathing in the open air.

Boating

is a favourite pastime. A large number of pleasure boats are on hire in the bay. They are annually surveyed by the Corporation; the boatmen are licensed after examination in the management of boats; they hold their licences subject to good behaviour and obedience to the regulations, and a

qualified inspector devotes the whole of his time to seeing that the regulations are observed.

Steam and motor launches ply in the bay and make occasional trips to places of interest on the coast.

Sea and River Fishing

are other favourite amusements. There are numerous trout streams in the neighbourhood and excellent sport is afforded by sea-fishing.

The Promenade Pier

(*admission 2d.*) is at the southern end of the Marine Parade. It was originally erected in 1864. In 1896 a pavilion, capable of accommodating 2,000 persons, was opened, and His Majesty (then Prince of Wales), during his visit in connection with the University of Wales, attended a banquet therein. Both on the pier and in the pavilion first-class entertainments are daily provided during the season.

Near the pier, upon a rocky promontory forming the southern horn of the bay fronting Aberystwyth, are—

The Castle Grounds.

The ruins of the Castle are the property of the Corporation, and the surrounding grounds are a very popular lounge. They are intersected by gravel walks and furnished with numerous seats.

Adjoining the Castle is—

The University College of Wales,

a huge building, which is a conglomeration of almost every style of architecture, and has a frontage exceeding 412 feet.

The College, including the Museum, is open to visitors, July 1 to September 14, from 10.0 to 1.0 and 2.0 to 5.0 ; the rest of the year on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 3.0 to 5.0. There is an admission fee of sixpence, which goes to form a " Visitors' Scholarship."

The Walks and Excursions

are numerous and varied, and are described in detail in the Guide to *North Wales, Southern Section,* in this series, which also gives a full description and a plan of the town.

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ABERYSTWYTH.

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THE PARADE, ABERYSTWYTH.

APPENDIX FOR GOLFERS.

Cheap Tickets at about a single fare and a quarter for the double journey (minimum 1*s.*) are issued to individual golfers travelling to a Golf Course not more than 50 miles distant for the purpose of playing.

A voucher on approved form from the secretary of a club and signed by the holder should be handed to the booking clerk.

The tickets are available for the forward journey on the date of issue only, to return same or next day. Those issued on a Saturday are available for return on the following Monday.

Golfers in parties of six 1st Class or ten 2nd or 3rd Class are booked at the same cheap rate to any station where there are golf links; the usual voucher from the secretary to be handed to the booking clerk.

In addition to the above facilities, week-end tickets are issued to nearly all the golf stations, from the principal and many other towns on the Great Western Railway.

For full particulars apply at any of the Company's stations or offices or send a postcard to The Superintendent of the Line, Paddington Station, W.

Abergavenny. The Monmouthshire Golf Club has a 9-hole course. Visitors' tickets: day, 1*s.* 6*d.*; weekly, 5*s.*; monthly, 10*s.*

Bridgend is the station for the Southerndown course of 18 holes. Tickets for Gentlemen: day, 2*s.* 6*d.*; weekly, 10*s.*; monthly, 25*s.* For Ladies: day, 1*s.* 6*d.*; weekly, 7*s.* 6*d.*; monthly, 20*s.*

Brecon has a 9-hole course. Visitors' tickets: day, 1*s.*; weekly, 4*s.*; monthly, 10*s.*

Briton Ferry and **Briton Ferry Road** are the stations for the 18-hole course of the Swansea Bay Golf Club. Visitors' tickets: day, 2*s.*; weekly, 7*s.* 6*d.*; monthly, 15*s.*

Cardiff. The Glamorganshire Golf Club has an 18-hole course. Visitors' tickets: day (except Saturday), 2*s.*; weekly, 7*s.* 6*d.*; monthly, 20*s.*; Saturdays, 5*s.*

Cardigan has a 9-hole course. Visitors' tickets: day, 1*s.* 6*d.*; weekly, 5*s.*; fortnightly, 8*s.* 6*d.*; monthly, 15*s.*

Crickhowell has a fine 9-hole course. Visitors' tickets: day, 1*s.*; weekly, 2*s.* 6*d.*; monthly, 5*s.*

Haverfordwest has a 9-hole course. Visitors' tickets: day, 1*s.*; weekly, 5*s.*

Merthyr Tydfil is the station for the Morlais Castle course of 9 holes. Visitors' tickets: 1*s.* a day. Annual subscription: Gentlemen, 30*s.*; Ladies, 15*s.*

Newport (Mon.) has an 18-hole course. Visitors' tickets:

Gentlemen, day (except Saturday), 1*s.* 6*d.*; weekly, 5*s.*; monthly, 15*s.*; Saturday, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Ladies, day, 1*s.*; weekly, 3*s.*; monthly, 10*s.*

Pembury and Burry Port. The "Ashburnham" course here has 18 holes. The green fees are 2*s.* per day; 5*s.* per week; 10*s.* per month. A visitor who is a member of a recognized golf club may become a member of the "Ashburnham" upon payment of a guinea per annum.

Penarth. The Glamorganshire Golf Club links at Lower Penarth. *See* under "Cardiff."

Porthcawl has an 18-hole course. Tickets for playing visitors: day, 2*s.* 6*d.*; weekly, 10*s.*; for non-playing visitors: day, 1*s.*; weekly, 5*s.*; monthly, 15*s.*

Radyr about a mile north-west of Llandaff.

St. David's has a 9-hole course. Entrance fee, 21*s.* Annual subscription, 21*s.*; monthly, 10*s.* 6*d.*

Southerndown has an 18-hole course. *See* "Bridgend."

Swansea. Fine course at Jersey Marine.

Tenby has an 18-hole course. Visitors' tickets: day, 1*s.* 6*d.*; weekly, 7*s.* 6*d.*; monthly, 15*s.*

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Bi-Centenary, 1710-1910.

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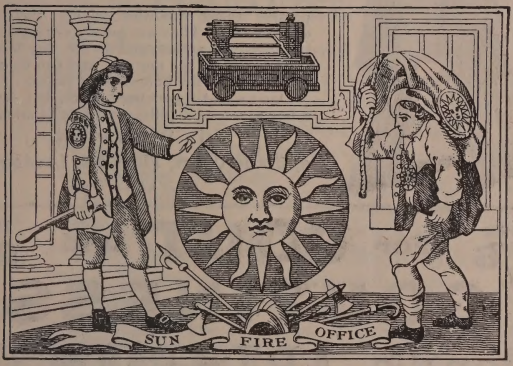

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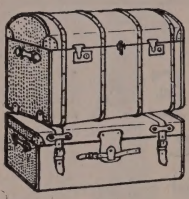

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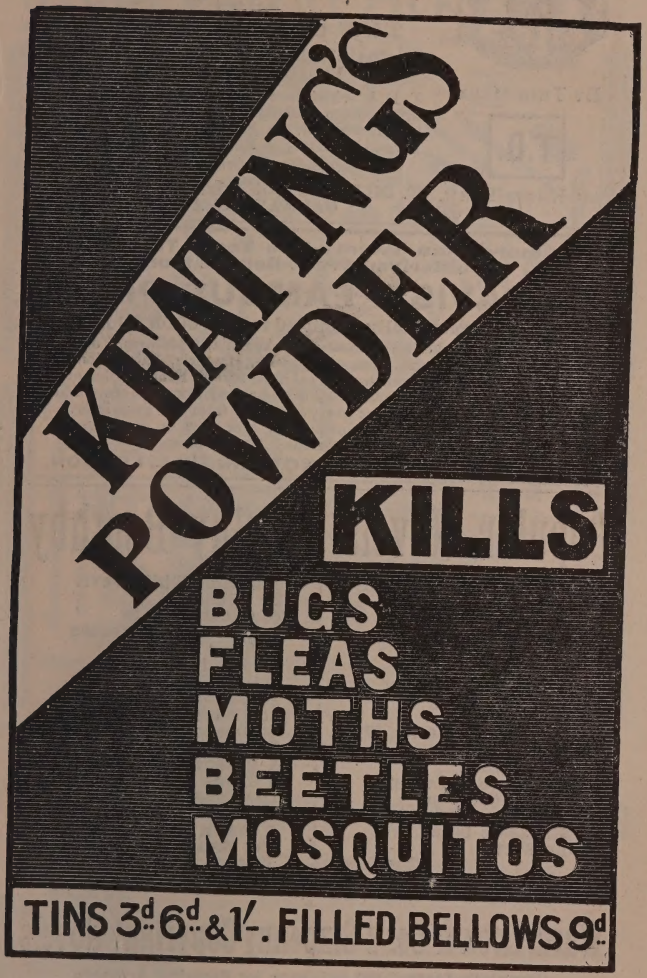
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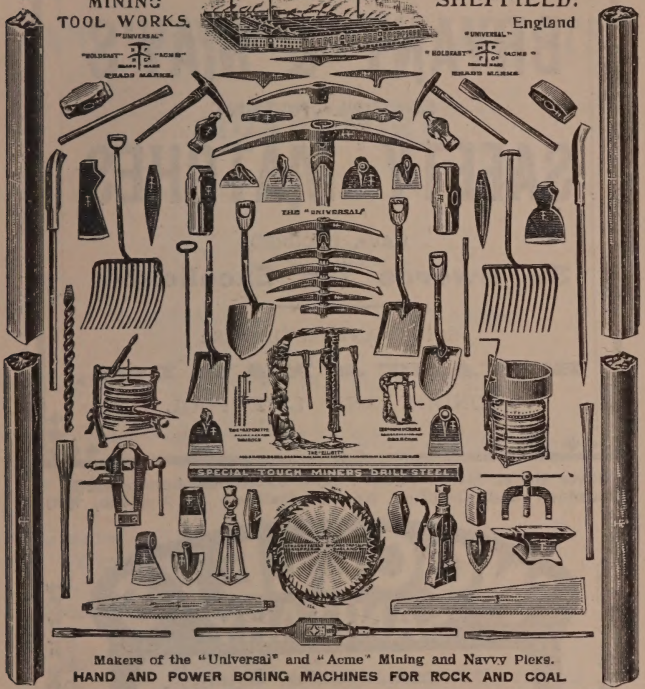

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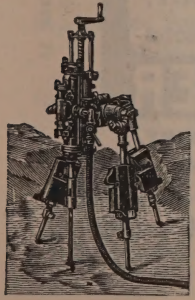

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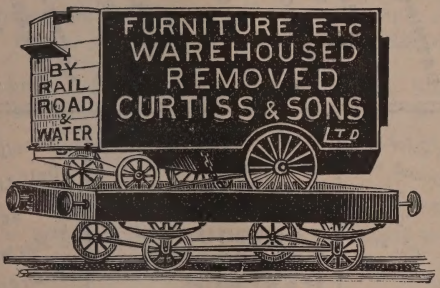

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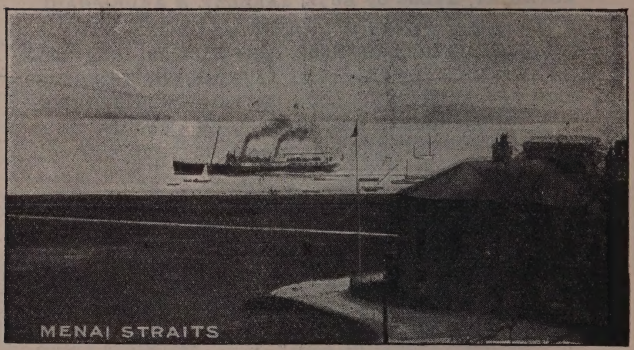

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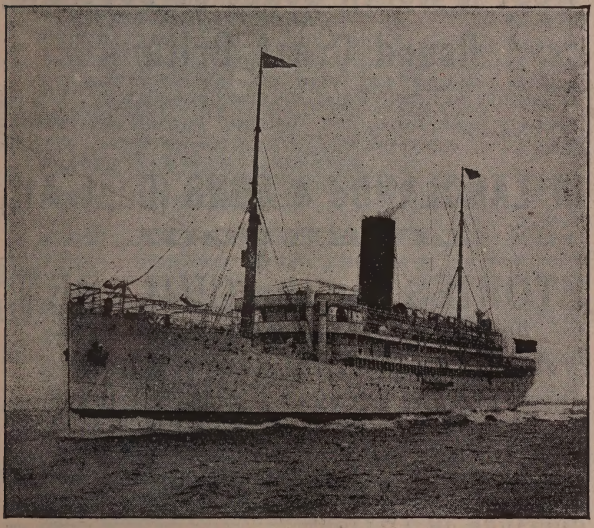

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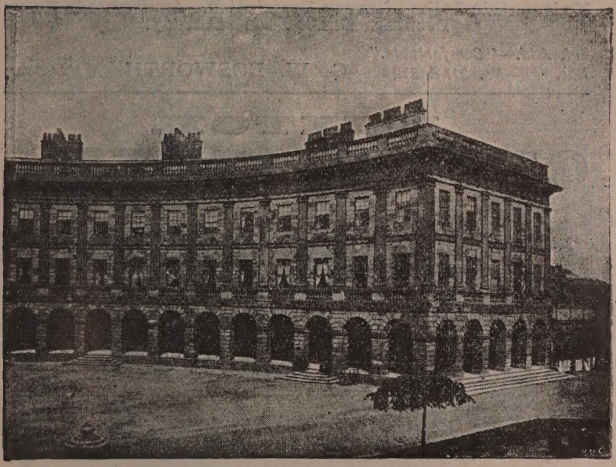

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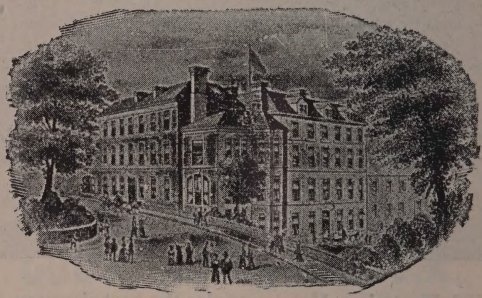

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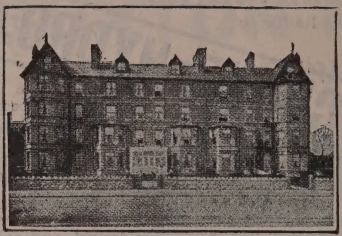

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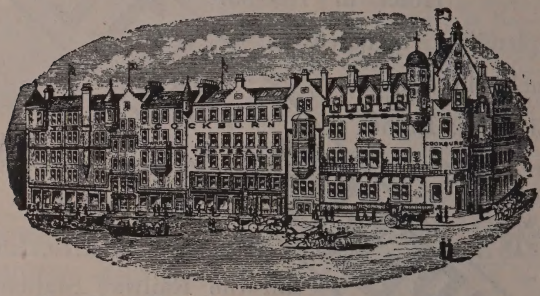

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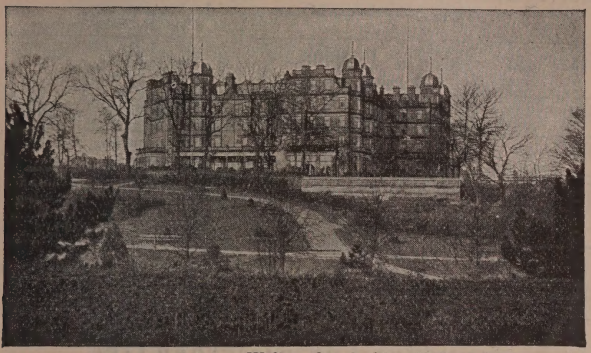

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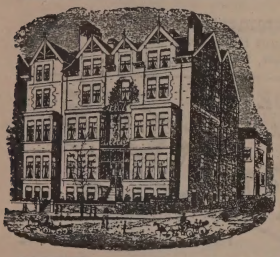

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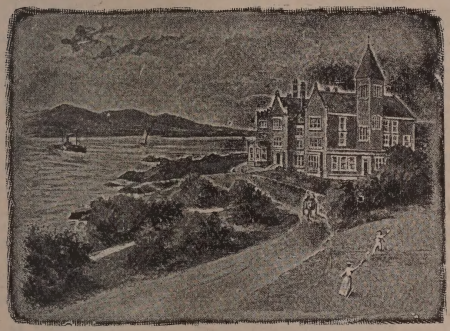

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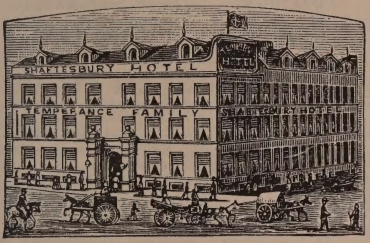

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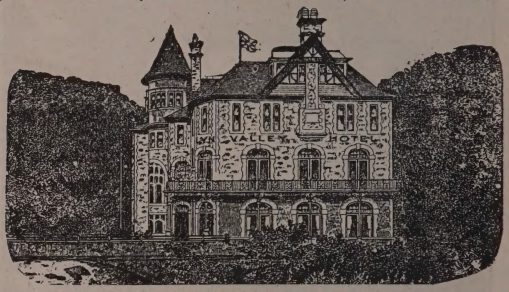

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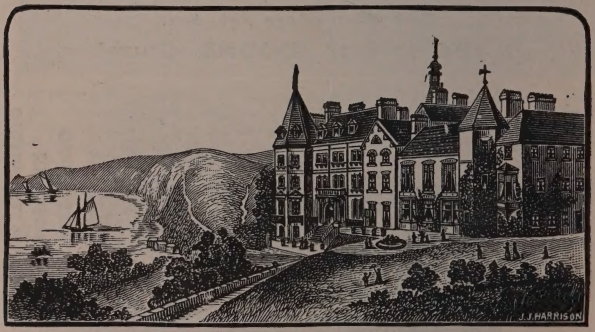

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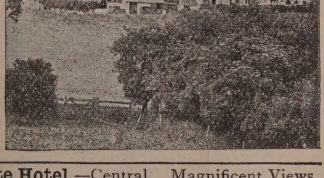

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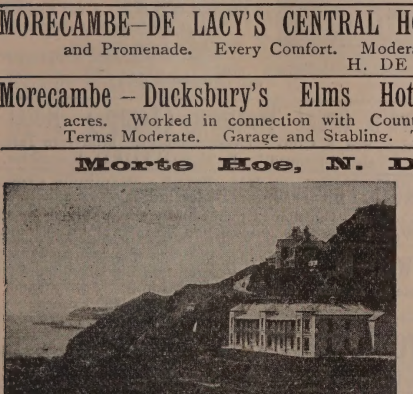

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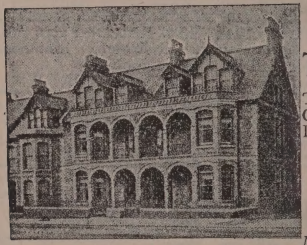

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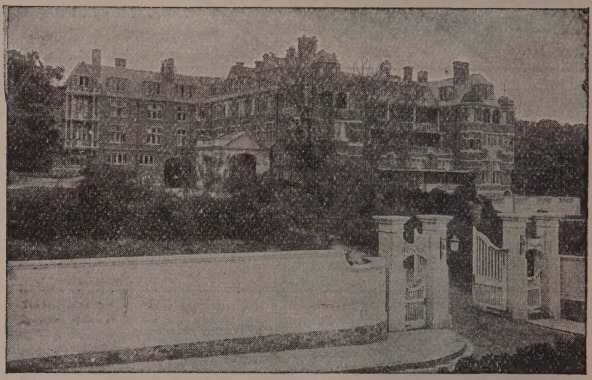

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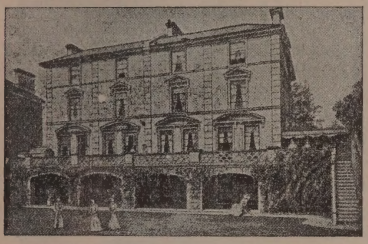

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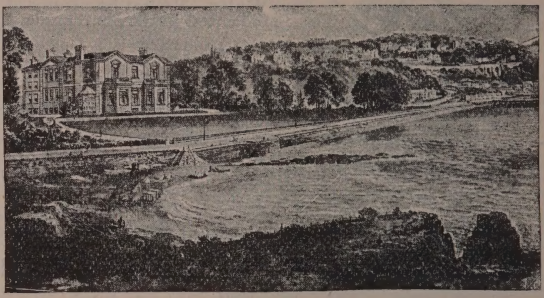

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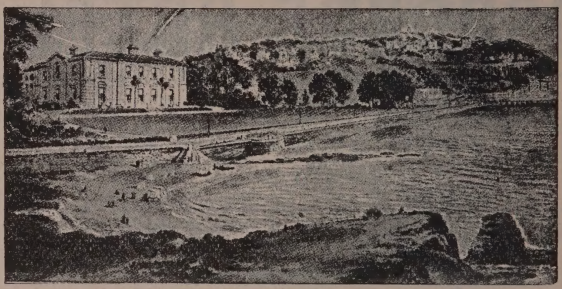

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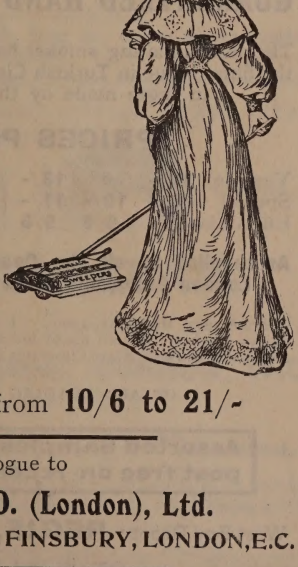

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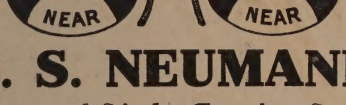
INVISIBLE 

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